SUNDAY
November 10, 2024

BENGALURU
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ON SUNDAY
INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

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ELITE TREND

Parenting your parent on holiday

People are now travelling with ageing parents to reconnect and create memories

MAGAZINE » PAGE 1

MAGA: a populist chorus that grows louder

PROFILES » PAGE 12

What are the costs of a slowing population in India?

FAQ » PAGE 11

India will look to sustain momentum in second T20I against SA

SPORT » PAGE 14

NEARBY

Nothing much has changed for these Dalit families

CHANNAPATNA

As the election fever grips Channapatna, 10 families remain optimistic about having a house of their own. For over two decades, polls have come and promises of pucca houses made but the families continue to remain in huts. » PAGE 4

Litter trouble for Bengaluru's lung spaces

BENGALURU

Although plastic is completely banned on the premises of Lalbagh Botanical Garden, littering of other materials goes on despite the reported efforts of vendors to keep it contained to dustbins. » PAGE 2

CLASSIFIEDS » PAGES J2 & 5
MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES

Team India will not play in Pakistan, BCCI tells ICC

The decision on Champions Trophy comes despite Pak. offering special security arrangements, and choice of venue; India favours having its matches outside Pakistan under a hybrid model

Suhasini Haidar
Amol Karhadkar
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

Red flagged

In the run-up to the tournament, India prepares to find an alternative solution to the Pakistan challenge

- Pakistan to host ICC Champions Trophy in February-March 2025
- ICC security team is set to visit Pakistan next week
- BCCI meets, writes to ICC for hybrid matches in UAE instead
- BCCI Secretary Jay Shah to take over as ICC chief on December 1

Days ahead of a visit by the International Cricket Council's (ICC) security team to Pakistan, to study the situation for the Champion's Trophy next year, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has officially communicated that it will not send the Indian team to Pakistan for the tournament.

The decision comes despite attempts by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), including during the recent visit of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to Islamabad, to convince the government to change its mind, offering special security arrangements.

The PCB was also prepared to assure the BCCI of its choice of venue for all matches played by the Indian team, which would have security concerns to play in Pakistan, given the tensions between the two countries and the absence of normal ties.

In 2019, angered by India's decision to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan had snapped trade and travel ties, and High Commissioners in both countries were expelled.

"We have officially informed the ICC about our inability to participate in games in Pakistan. We have made our stance clear that we will prefer a hybrid model, with the tournament split in two countries," a BCCI insider told *The Hindu*.

"We were asked to clear our stand and we have done it, in consultation with the [Central] government."

A hybrid model, which had been followed for other series in the past, would mean India's group engagements and the tournament final due to be held in February-March 2025 would be organised in the UAE, a proposal that could see stiff opposition from Pakistan, sources said.

On Friday, Pakistan's Home Minister and PCB chief Syed Mohsin Naqvi dismissed Indian media reports that the BCCI had written to them. No country had discussed the "hybrid model" with them nor was Pakistan "willing to talk about it", he said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 6

Sharad Pawar gave us permission to leave the party: Ajit

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
PUNE

Ajit Pawar

"I did not leave him. All the MLAs wrote to him and he gave his permission," Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar told *The Hindu* on Saturday, when asked if he thought he had made a mistake by parting ways with his uncle and Nationalist Congress Party founder Sharad Pawar.

Asked if there was any room for reconciliation, he said he did not want to answer hypothetical questions at this juncture.

"Everything is at stake for us in this election but so it is for them [the Opposition]. We have corrected mistakes we committed during the Lok Sabha election. The atmosphere is different now," he said. On the recent controversy over Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's "*batoge toh katoge*" (If we don't stay united, we will be destroyed) remark, he said his party had not left its secular moorings despite being in an alliance with the BJP and Shiv Sena.

On his chief ministerial aspirations and whether he thinks the CM candidate would be chosen from the smaller party in the alliance, he said: "I am not the kind of person who hides his aspirations. But I am not thinking of it right now."

INTERVIEW ON » PAGE 7

D'Cunha report: BSY denies charge; Cong. feels vindicated

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa dismissed as "political motivated" the John Michael D'Cunha commission report, which recommended criminal prosecution of him and B. Sriramulu, who served as Health Minister in his Cabinet, over alleged irregularities in the procurement of three lakh PPE kits from China in April 2020.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said the report only vindicated the allegations Congress had made during the pandemic, as the then Opposition. "We had said that the BJP government was busy making money out of people's misery," he said, citing *The Hindu*'s report on the 'scam', as delineated by the commission and its recommendations.

FULL REPORT ON » PAGE 4

14 soldiers among 26 killed in Pak. railway station blast

Agence France-Presse
QUETTA

A bombing claimed by Pakistani separatists killed 26 people, including 14 soldiers, at a railway station in the southwestern Balochistan province, a hospital spokesman said on Saturday. The blast hit as passengers waited on a platform at the main railway station in the provincial capital Quetta.

"Fourteen members of the Army and 12 civilians were killed," said Wasim Baig, spokesman for Quetta's Sandeman Provincial Hospital, raising an earlier toll of 25 provided by police.

Forty-six members of the security forces and 14 civilians were wounded, the spokesman added.

Despite frequent attacks in Balochistan, the toll of Saturday's blast was particularly high for the southwestern province, which borders Afghanistan and Iran.

The explosion took place around 8.45 a.m. (10.15 a.m. Indian Standard Time) and was claimed by the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), one of the area's main separatist groups.

The attack "was carried out on a Pakistani army unit at Quetta railway station... after completing a course at the Infantry School", the BLA said.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said the attackers "will pay a heavy price", according to a statement from his office.

Deadly hit: The blast-hit railway station in Quetta of the Balochistan province in Pakistan on Saturday. AFP

Ransomware attack hit crucial defence unit last year: DoPT

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

A crucial defence unit was affected by a ransomware attack in 2023, according to the 2023-24 annual report of the Department of Personnel Training (DoPT). In such an attack, access to a computer is blocked through malware until a ransom is paid.

The report, published last week, mentions that in 2023, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) investigated complex cyber crimes with national security implications. These included "a ransomware attack on a crucial defence unit, a data breach impacting millions of Indian users, a malware attack in a Ministry, and a massive DDoS attack on critical infrastructure and airports in India". DDoS stands for distributed denial-of-service, a malicious attempt to disrupt internet traffic.

The report does not specify the location of the critical defence unit that was hit by ransomware. India had hosted the G-20 conference the same year.

CERT-In's 2023 reports says 15,92,917 security incidents were reported last year.

Cybercrime surge

In October 2023, American cybersecurity and intelligence agency Resecurity had issued an alert that the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) had suffered a data leak of Aadhaar and passport information of 81 crore Indians, along with names, phone numbers, and addresses.

According to the 2023 report of the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), as many as 15,92,917 security incidents were reported last year, a massive jump from 53,117 incidents reported in 2017. These incidents included website intrusion and malware propagation, malicious codes, phishing, DDoS attacks, website defacements, unauthorised network scanning activities, ransomware attacks, and data breaches. CERT-In said remedial measures for handling such incidents were suggested and implemented in coordination with relevant stakeholders.

The DoPT report said the CBI had collaborated with international counterparts such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), and Singapore police, to dismantle call centre fraud networks in India.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 6

Ahead of COP-29, India to emphasise Paris deal red lines on climate finance

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Money matters: India is likely to stick to its stance of getting developed countries to increase climate finance. GETTY IMAGES

With the 29th edition of the Conference of Parties expected to commence in Baku, India is expected to stick to its stance of getting developed countries to increase climate finance – a broad term for money for adapting to the impacts of climate change – but without deviating from the principles agreed to in the Paris Agreement text.

In COP-15 at Copenhagen, countries agreed on a climate finance target whereby developed countries would collectively mobilise $100 billion per year by 2020 to meet the needs of developing countries. However, there was never clarity on how climate finance would be defined. Countries differed on whether conventional business investments in clean energy projects ought to be counted as climate finance or if these sums would be over and above money that was anyway being channelled to economic development. In 2022, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) claimed that the target of $100 billion had been achieved.

In the COP of 2021, countries decided that more money would be required to keep the Paris goals feasible.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 6

Gunmen kill another woman in Manipur

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Suspected extremists gunned down a woman, second in three days, in conflict-scarred Manipur on Saturday.

The incident happened around 11 a.m. at Saiton village in Bishnupur district of Imphal Valley. The place adjoins the hill district of Churachandpur.

Local people said Sapam Sophia Leima, 34, was working with others on a paddy field when they came under fire from a hilly stretch about 100 metres away. She was killed on the spot.

Some Border Security Force personnel deployed nearby retaliated and the exchange of fire took place for about an hour. An organisation based in Bishnupur said the assailants were Kuki-Zo extremists.

"We have launched an investigation into the attack while security measures in the area have been heightened to prevent further violence," a district police officer said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 6

Guard of honour: Onlookers make way as participants lead cattle to the race field.

Tight rein: Participants control the cattle as the race draws near.

Bull power: A race under way in a paddy field in Palakkad district of Kerala.

Cattle unleashed

The vibrant tradition of cattle racing has its roots in the agrarian culture of Kerala and is deeply intertwined with the harvest festival of Onam

K.K. Mustafah
mustafah.kk@thehindu.co.in

Cattle race is a sport organised in various parts of rural Kerala with great enthusiasm after the harvesting season.

The vibrant tradition of cattle racing has its roots in the agrarian culture of the State. The practice, which can be traced back centuries, is intertwined with the harvest festival of Onam, which celebrates the bountiful harvest and the spirit of community. During Onam, villagers engage in various festivities, with cattle racing emerging as a popular highlight. In Kerala, cattle hold significant cultural value, symbolising prosperity and the agricultural lifestyle.

The races are not just competitions; they are celebrations of the bond between farmers and their cattle – an aspect that is very evident in other cultures too, like in Tamil Nadu's Jallikattu. The excitement and fervour surrounding these events foster community spirit and bring the local populace together.

Cattle races in Kerala are typically organised in paddy fields or mud tracks, where specially trained bulls compete. An age-based classification ensures fair competition among the participants. The cattle are graded by age for various races. Those with just milk teeth come under the sub-junior category and those with four second-generation teeth (after the milk teeth have fallen) are considered "seniors". The cattle chosen for racing are more expensive than those used for regular farming activities. These animals are given special diet, including glucose, cumin seeds, eggs, cotton seeds, and milk, in the run-up to the races.

Training begins well in advance, with jockeys employing techniques to ensure that the cattle are not only fit but also accustomed to the race environment. In recent years, cattle racing has gained more visibility, with events attracting tourists and spectators from various parts of the country. This increased interest has led to organised competitions, complete with prizes and recognition for the best performers. However, amidst the modernisation, efforts are being made to preserve the traditional aspects of this age-old practice. Cattle racing is more than just a sport in the State; it is a celebration of tradition, community, and agricultural heritage. As it continues to evolve, it retains its cultural significance, reflecting the deep-rooted connection between the people of Kerala and their land.

Getting ready: People watch as a jockey prepares his cattle for the race.

Classifieds

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LIFE MADE SIMPLE

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Matrimonial

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BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

BUSINESS

BEAUTIFUL, SLIM, Fair, Tall Girl, BE + MBA (IIM), Runs her own company, 42yrs, 60kg, 5.8 ft tall. Any boy, even if younger. Only from elite affluent family (preferably running family business or successful business background or industrialist). She's into Bharatanatyam, Mohiniyattam and Kalaripayattu. Into arts, music, travel, nature & trekking. Fitness & health conscious. Contact : WhatsApp msg only at 9342075206 / 9342325727 (no calls please due to the heavy number of incoming calls) or Email: priyanka.ges@gmail.com

COSMOPOLITAN

WARM, ATTRACTIVE, 37, 155, multicultural US–based professional, yet willing to relocate – to India too – for accomplished, compatible groom. Community no bar. Call/WA 9345634365.

HINDU ISSUELESS Divorcee 48 MBA, ACS. Seeks Bride Groom CNB. Contact: 9445366062

MUMBAI BORN Iyer girl 31 Bangalore based Spanish Faculty. Honest, humble, independent, creatively spirited loves reading, travelling seeks Bangalore based likeminded life partner. Contact 9819651385

DOCTOR

DOCTOR 26/165 cms, M.S.(Gen. Surgery II Year) Tamil Muslim Seeks Groom Preferably Doctors from Chennai. Brides parents are both Doctors, Affluent family Contact : 98658 10041

HINDU REDDY Surgeon 33Yrs 165cms Own Practice. Looking for Suitable Groom from well Settled Family in Chennai CNB, Ph– 89256 40111.

WANTED PG Doctor or well employed Sr. Executive for a PG Doctor-Surgeon DNB, Hindu Nair malayali girl 37yrs Ashwathy, well employed in a leading hospital in Kerala,
Contact: Whatsapp 8144140365

MUDALIAR 32/165, DM Cardiology seeks Mudaliar PG Doctors only. Sub sect no bar. Ct– 8220677056.

BRIDEGROOM WANTED
Smart, Pretty, Cultured Homely Doctor Girl, MD, Anaesthesiology Specialist from Affluent Family of Doctors 35/165
Father Cardiac Surgeon from Kerala based in Chennai, Mother from Tamilnadu.
Looking for doctors or professionally qualified groom from good families
98400 50381 / 98409 85383

Tamil Vellalar pillai Girl (24/5'6) Swathi, Thulam MBBS. Seeks well qualified professional Groom preferably Doctor. rajaraman34@gmail.com

KANNADA

HINDU VOKKALIGA Gowda 30, BE from Coimbatore seeks Suitable Groom. Contact: 97917 68175.

MALAYALAM

BEAUTIFUL, CARING, 29, 170, UK–educated, UAE–based upper–middle–class Catholic. Seeking smart, open–minded, compatible groom. Religion & community no bar. Call/WA 9345634365.

RC SYRIAN Christian Doctor Girl 31/156cms MS(Ortho) seeks suitable groom Contact: 8089794631, WhatsApp 9443494631

WANTED BRIDEGROOM
Veera Saivam, Keralite, 26, PGDM, Tax Associate in MNC at HYD, 7 LPA, 152 cms/50Kgs, slim, coming from a educated, upper middle class family, seeks well educated, settled Hindu Grooms (caste no bar) India/ abroad, 28-30, from similar family background.
Contact: WhatsApp: **7025300843.**
Email: **ramji13@hotmail.com**

THE HINDU
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MALAYALAM

HINDU SC malayali girl, 06/04/1988, MBBS, Central government officer in Trivandrum seeks qualified bridegrooms. Caste no bar. Ph:8589881011

U.S. SETTLED professional Kerala Hindu parents seek alliance for their U.S. born and raised professional daughter; pretty, accomplished singer, dancer, 31, 152cm, currently working in Southern U.S. from professionals raised/settled or did higher studies in the U.S. Caste no bar. Interested parties please reply with details and a recent picture to: bejeweledsnow@hotmail.com

Thiyya 27 M Sc from UK & M Sc from Netherlands. TN Govt Employee working in Chennai seeks same Community Groom below 30 - 9444011212

NRI

WARM, ATTRACTIVE, 35, 155, US–educated/based professional (MS, MBA) . Seeking driven, understanding partner with modern views. Religion & community no bar. Call/WA 9345634365.

PUNJABI

SM4 29/170CM, NIT Gold Medalist, EdTech Prof., BLR. Bful, slim, simple. Fam. settled Surat. Seeks Edu., Tall Punjabi match. Call 9374738545

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN NADAR Girl, Fair, MBBS, MD, 27y, Seeks Doctor, Abroad or Suitable Rich Ok. Ph: 7824023030

LOOKING FOR Christian Bridegroom for the girl working in USA startup aged 25. End time message. 8939250457

CHRISTIAN NADAR MBBS 32, Cent.Govt 167, Fair Good family back ground. Seeks suitable grooms. 9840377793

SEEKS GROOM from Bangalore/ Chennai, for CSI Christian Nadar girl, 28/160 working in MNC Bangalore 1.30 Lakh per month Ct: 9893392905 / 9589003508, gjas1968@gmail.com

GROOM WANTED CSI Chirstain Nadar, 27yrs, B.Tech, MA(US), Elite business family Ct: 9380791999/ 9841329471

CSI CHRISTIAN, 32, fair, well educated legal professional from respectful elite cosmopolitan family, settled in Chennai seeks suitable well educated Groom with similar background. Ph: 9445417111/ 824–8853323

RC CHRISTIAN Age 33, PGDM – HR Bachelor's in Arts – French/Philosophy Working in the Embassy @ Delhi. Ct: 8130110968, 9818455593

R.C INTERCASTE VANNIAR Kallar 32/165 Divorcee unconsummated marriage M.Tech. Ph.d Fellowship IISc Bangalore 65K need Suitable Groom. 94867 69694 / 93609 59425

CSI TAMIL, God Fearing, Homely, B.Tech., PGDM(XLRI), 25 Years, Budding Entrepreneur, Parents seek alliance from suitable God Fearing, well qualified and employed Groom with clean habits Mobile/WhatsApp: 7200309111

PAVANA RC Girl Malayali Family 29/ 171cm, Graduate From Stella Maris College & Done HR – Loyola College. Settled in Chennai, T–Nagar For More Than 48 Years, Now Working HR in Microsoft Hyderabad Seeks Groom From Chennai or Kerala Working in Hyderabad Age 30–34 Year. 9884185583

CHRISTIAN, INTERCASTE , 33yrs, MS, Software Professional, at USA, Income 1crore Ph.8138901294

CHRISTIAN, RC, 30yrs, B.E, Software Professional at UK, Income 50lakhs. Ph. 8138900553

BORN AGAIN christian, 44yrs/152. MBBS. MD. doctor, seeks christian groom, Chennai. CT–9500188067

BALIJA GAVARA Naidu Girl 27 MNC Hyderabad looking Groom working Bangalore or Hyderabad. CT: 9994650674, 9944788377.

TAMIL VISWAKARMA (Gold smith) age 26/154 M.Sc Aayilyam, Seeks Bridegroom age below 31. 97460 36999

HASTHAM 36 Fair MCA well settled in chennai seeks Mudaliyar/Pillai profly Qualfd working Groom 8220757159

MUDALIYAR DOCTOR girl 26/172 md paed seeks doctor / professional / business for suitable grooms 9791053568

HINDU NADAR, 26yrs, BE, MS (US), Elite business family. Seeks Suitable Groom Cont: 9380791999/ 9841329471

MUDALIAR (CNB): 27/ 170,V.Fair & Beautiful, MBA, Account Manager , MNC, Chennai, 200000 Pm, well settled family, Seeks Groom Eng/ Business– 9841053198, 8939012419

TAMIL

MUDALIAR: 22/V.FAIR, B.Sc. Doing Father Business, Elite Family, Seeks groom– Business/ Doctor– 9962530015

RICH MUDALIYAR, 27yrs, BE, MBA, Elite Family background, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9962791888

HINDU NADAR, 21/165cm, Poosam, Kadagam, Fair, doing MBA, working in MNC, 12Lacs p.a daughter of Group A Officer seeks professionally qualified Group A Officers/ Business family, Teetotaller Groom. Ct: 6383200515 / chandrasekaran09536@gmail.com.

Vanniyar Girl 34 B.Tech Working as SWE-USA seeks Good looking Groom with decent family. CT:9842283476.

VANNIYAR (MBC), Chennai, fair, Poosam 30/ 160, M.Sc., SET, Ph.D, Assistant Professor (GL). Ct: 8056166664

PILLAI / MUDALIAR, 34, MD, Well Settled family seeks Groom aged 34-36 yrs, Engineer/ Business/ Doctor. Contact: 93458 55735

SEEKING NEVER married Tamil/Telugu Groom age(41–44) working in Chennai or US for Naidu Bride–SWE Contact: hemapriya.h@gmail.com/ 9962805093

1993 NADAR ELITE educated business family fair&smart BE, PGDM(France) knows Tamil English Hindi Malayalam Kannada Telgu Bengalure 8310531251

AGAMUDIYAR 30YRS MBBS MD Well educated family background, Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: 9710093999/ 9710091999

MUDALIAR 26, BE, MBA, 162cm,Good looking well settled family seeks alliance CNB, Ct.8778514465/ 7200866346

DOCTOR, ANAESTHETIST, Hindu Nadar fair, 30yrs Uthradam seeks doctor or engineer groom CNB: 9840772648

HINDU SC AD 25/MSC Thiruvonam Magaram Fair Good Looking Chennai Bride Seeks Govt Employed Groom from Good Family.Ct:9629412661

MUDALIYAR 27/152CM, slim, fair Girl, Bharani Mesham, B.Tech Working in MNC Bangalore as Software Engineer Seeks Suitable Groom.
CT : 6374286360 /9443490931

HINDU YADAVA Tamil,30/ 173 B.E (Arc) Seeks South Indian boy from Chennai Business/ Well Educated, Cast no bar Ct: 98840 30309

KULALA (TELUGU), 27/160, BE, ECE, Uthiradam, Dhanusu, 2nd marriage, issueless, short lived, seeks suitable groom from educated family, working professional not more than 34, caste no bar, Ct: 8075760926

SC AD 26/B.Com.,MBA,IIM[Associate – MNC] Two Lakhs p.m. Seeks Bridegroom. 9444993417/ Whatsapp:7397674481

VANNIYA KULA Kshatriya Bride 22 year old, M.Com, Seeks Bridegroom from same caste upper middle class. Bank or Govt Employees preferred. mail id: mbravindran89@gmail.com

HINDU AD, 39yrs/167cm, MA, M.Phil, B.Ed, Ph.D working at PVT-College, divorcee, decent fmly seeks Educated Employed Groom CNB. 99413 35774

✔ **VADAKALAI, ANUSHAM,** Kowshika,33 years, B.Tech, M.S, Ph.d (US), Upper middle class, U.S. Working groom Preferred. willing to relocate. ct: 98944 89074, Srigeo12@gmail.com

SEEKING EMPLOYED bridegroom below 35y for Hindu SC fair, educated, divorced, homely & employed 32y bride from elite family. CNBar 9483542477

HINDU NADAR 32yrs/164cm, B.Tech star–Revathy workg–IT seeks IT/ other profnl groom 9944410712/ 9514952555

BALIJA NAIDU, 29 yrs, Issueless divorcee, MNC, good position, seeks broad minded, friendly, willing to re locate to Bangalore, (Caste no bar) Ct : 9943043696.

HINDU GIRL B E (mech) MS (NUS) 27 work experience in Singapore, Germany (4 yrs) inter–caste seeks professional groom 9363631558

VISWAKARMA, GS Girl, 35, B.Sc Agriculture, Bank Manager, 9447528352

VK KSHATRIYA Hindu Chennai CA Girl 32/156 having Own Firm seeks well educated & settled Chennai Groom CNB 9500100848/ 9840200907

MUDALIAR ELITE 25/168 Fair Beautiful, BE,MBA Father Export Business 50Cr, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

HINDU NADAR 23years B.sc, MBA Elite business family, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9380791999/ 9841329471

GROOM WANTED Rich Naidu 24yrs, B.Tech,Own Industries and Warehouses in Chennai Ct: 9710093999/ 9710091999

TAMIL

WANTED GROOM for a Post Graduate Doctor, Eye Surgeon, Chennai Based, 33 Years, Kettai Star, Viruchiga Rasi, Mithuna Lagnam, Doctors, Engineer, Auditor or Equivalent With Good Family Background, Well Settled, Hindu, Telugu, Reddy & Non Veg May Contact in Whats App 9941019444 Email: lokyuva22@gmail.com

REDDY 26/167CM Fair,BTech/SWE/Chennai/Well Settled.Seeks Educated Business/Working 7305997228, 9385599066

PILLAI CASTE–NOBAR 23/153CM/MBA/ Beautiful/ Affluent / Business/ Seeks Well Settled Good Looking Business Family. Ct: 9380474999, 9842127777

IYER VADAMAL Bharatwaj Magaram Avittam 31/173 B.Tech MBA 14 LPA Chennai seeks professionally qualified Iyer groom. Age diff 2yrs. 9176829762

PILLAI PARENTS FROM ELITE FAMILY, WITH BUSINESSES IN CHENNAI AND MIDDLE EAST
Seek alliance for their Daughter, 27 Yrs / 160 / N.Veg, B.Tech / MEM(USA) Ivy League, working in US -Top5, from smart, well educated Grooms from Affluent / Business Family Background.
Contact 8925527453/ kavimalliance@gmail.com

HINDU SC (AD) 24/160cm B.sc Maths Teacher in Chennai Seeks Educated groom from good Family. 94442 15959

Hindu, Vellalar 28yr/167cm, Meenam, Fair, Slim, Ph.D., Lecturer, Rs.9 LPA from Elite Family seeks suitable, Qualified, cultured, Good personality Groom Contact: 98403 75075 / 98424 25255.

SC AD 36 BE Software Engineer TCS Chennai. 1.35Lks/month. seeks suitable groom Caste No Bar. 99521 47216

TELUGU

GROOM WANTED Rich Kamma Naidu, 26yrs, B.Tech, Elite Industrialist in Chennai. Ct: 9710093999/ 9710091999

Never Married Naidu Andhra fair, slim B.Tech SWE 39/173 Settled / working at U.S.A needs handsome educated equivalent Groom. Ph: 8008913979

KIRTHIGAI 41/ 156 M.Com, B.Ed. Chennai, seeks employed Reputed Company Groom. Caste No Bar – Preferred BC, MBC. Contact: 8682080448

NAIDU ELITE Family 24/160 Fair, Beautiful BE, MBA, Father Owning Mill,50.Cr,CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

KAMMA 23/170CM Fair MBBS, PG Preparing, Chennai/ Affluent Seeks Doctor / Business/ Professionals Chennai or Tamilnadu 9345448354, 7305997224

BALIJA 27/165CM Fair/BE.MS SWE / USA/ Wel Settled/ Seeks Abroad Reputed University 9380472999, 9840049277

URDU

URDU, SHAIK MUSLIM 26/160, M.S Doctor (OBG), Good Looking seeks Fair Religious M.D/M.S groom from TN/Pondy. Contact : 8489535580

BRIDES WANTED

COSMOPOLITAN

DM– DOCTOR (Tamil, Dec–91,185 cm, v.fair, hastham) needs a fair, tall, PG doctor or well qualified bride, about 28 years old from Pillai, mudaliyar, Kongu Vellalar or equal communities.Parents: 9342529547/9072118800

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RAJPUT BOY, Wheatish, Manglik, Veg, from UP, 31/173 cm, MBA/B. Tech, Technical Lead in MNC, educated family, contact: 7228896938

I AM 30, going on 31, and a Civil Servant in Manchester (UK). Born into an inter–religious (Hindu–Christian), inter–state (Tamil–Malayali) and Brahmin (Iyer, Srivatsa gotra) family. No dietary restrictions for me. Im tradition–respecting and worldviews–inclusive but with a very open–minded outlook to life. Happy to meet people from all backgrounds and communities but wont do long distance. Talented. Both fun and boring in the right measure. Serious about starting a family and spending my life with the right person. Contact: vishal.manu.1234@gmail.com, +44.7918.636992

TAMIL

RC CHRISTIAN 42yrs/170, B.E. Software Engineer, never married, works for mnc, Chennai. CT– 9500188067

CHRISTIAN, CONVERT, 33yrs, MCA, software professional at Singapore. Income 50lakhs Ph. 8138900557

CHRISTIAN, RC, 33 yrs, B.E,M.S, Engineer at Bangalore. Income 50 lakhs Ph.8138900316

CHRISTIAN, RC, 38yrs, B.E,M.S,Software professional at USA. Income 50 lakhs. Ph. 8138901189

CHRISTIAN, AGE: 25.Seeks Suitable Bride, Religious and Caste No Bar. Call: 9677216306

AGAMUDAIYAR, UTHIRAM/KANNI 35/180, BE, HRM, Job at Canada, Canadian Citizen, Seeks BE,Nursing, any degree bride.CNB.Ct: 9442993042

INTERCASTE FATHER – Devendra Kula Vellalar, Mother–Brahmin. Son DOB:Oct 1996, Fair, 5.6 Ft, Good Looking, B.E., Working in Autonomous Body under Min. of Finance in Mumbai, 24L PA, Looking for Educated Working Girl: Govt / MNC/IT. Caste No Bar. Contact 9444589256 / 8825538874

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VANNIA KULA KSHATRIYA, 31, 180 cms, MBA, Operation Management Professional. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Management Professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448344

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COSMOPOLITAN

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HINDI

1985/175CM, 50 Lakhs PA, Never Married, Bangalore. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

MALAYALAM

AGE 35 M.A. B.Ed. High school Teacher.Horoscope and caste optional.Prefer bride from any state ready to settle in Kerala. 9400245879.

EZHAVA 27 / 173cms, B.Com, Doing MBA, Businessman, lives in CBE, Father Businessman, well settled, looking for suitable Match. Ct: 9677259892.

Kerala Marthoma Malayali boy 36/163cm, B.Sc Nurse Ireland. seeks bride. Ct: 98848 72719 / 88487 46802

NRI

NAIDU, 29/180CM, Pooratathi, BTech, MS, Research Engineer, Sweden Citizen, contact 9566682220

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Seperated pension 70 tamil seek life partner Contact: 9442284096

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN NADAR, Doctor, Divorcee 36yrs/178cm, MBBS, Dip in Cardiology better earning lives in Nagercoil seeks qualified/ Divorced Bride. 9003983230

CHRISTIAN NADAR, 30y, MBBS, MD, Seeks MBBS Girl Ok, Chennai or Any District. Contact: 7824023030

Christian 48/177 cm B.com Govt job, 1.1 LPM divorcee,Chennai seeks bride CNB. Ct: 88258 97792 / 99406 71540

TAMIL

THEVAR AGAMUDAYAR 1995 born/ 180cm, Maham, Simmam, B.E., MBA, Software Consultant at Accenture, Chennai seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 9489378378

TAMIL IYER, Trivandrum based 34/168, Srivatsam, Pooram, M.Tech Biotech, working MNC Bangalore seeks qualified pref. employed girls from resp. families. 8334815577.

HINDU AGAMUDAIYAR 29/168 SWD abroad 50 LPA INR seeks bride below 26yrs Contact:9500017873

51YRS, MUDALIAR Hindu, Business, Divorcee. Seeking Any Mudaliar Divorcee / Widower Bride. Ct: 9840776650

VANNIYAKULA KSHATRIYA 37/180 BE MS & MBA UK employed in UK. Preferably UK employed bride same community. 9486291986 / 9442910057

BRIDE WANTED Elite Mudaliyar, 27yrs, B.Tech, Very Big Industrialist in Chennai Ct: 9710093999/ 9710091999

MUDALIYAR BOY 32/174 BE. MBA Er Tafe 1.5L/Month own flat Chennai . Contact 9791172560, 9789056263

MUDALIAR, DIVORCEE, PhD, Professor, Pvt Eng.College, age 51,Magaram, Seeks educated unmarried/widow/ Divorcee without child from FC/OBC (40–45yrs) No expectation Ct:9150799959

MUDALIAR: 29/178, Handsome, B. Tech, LLB, Business, Having own Manufacturing Industry, Chennai,5 Lakhs Pm, Elite Family, Seeks bride Affluent family – 9840866993, 8925019776

DEVAR 28, BE, MBA, 176cm, 18Lacs PA Smart Look, Well Settled Family Seeks Bride CNB 7200866346/ 8778514465

✔ **SEEKING BRIDE** for our 34 year old son, 173 cm, MTech (IIT), MS (US), working in US multinational. Well qualified bride, US settled or willing to relocate. Hindu Tamil, caste no bar. Ct: 9600865587, sivampankajam@gmail.com

TAMIL

SC AD 41/160cms BE SWE in MNC Chennai 14L/Annum Seeking Suitable & Qualified Employee Bride. Ph:6360561521

HINDU NADAR, 27/179cm, Aswini, Mesham,Fair,B.E (CSE), M.Tech, Data Scientist working in IT Company, Bangalore, Salary 19 lakhs PA seeks suitable Bride. Profile send to WhatsApp: 9865258822, 9486730689

AGAMUDAYA MUDALIAR (Thuluva Vellalar) 30/ BE, ECE/ MBA/ 176/Private Bank' Thiruvonam/ Magaram/ Kethu in Lagnam. Property 2 Houses in Vellore & land Worth 4 Cr seeks Suitable Graduate Bride . Call– 9442132423/ 9487572423

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HINDU MARUTHUVAR 26yrs 172cm B.E.,Star Hastham,Working as Manager in Leading Telecom Company, Chennai. Seeks suitable bride from same caste. Contact no: 9444525774.

CNB, 26YRS, BE, MS(UK) working in UK, Well settled family, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct:9710093999/ 9710091999

AGAMUDIYAR 37 BE Marine Merchant Navy Class 2 seeks Qualified Bride – Geetham 9884858014

BITS PILANI BTech Height183 cm Mudaliar 32 yrs Sr Product Manager Bangalore Sal 50 lacs seeks Bride Tamil,Telugu. Ct: 7382620365

✔ **PILLAI(KARUNEEGAR)**, DOB:24–01–92, BE, Veg, Job: MNC (Software) Chennai, Annual Income: 30 lakhs. Seeking a suitable bride from the same or any other community. Ph: 9841784047 Email: pingme.arul@gmail.com.

HINDU NADAR 27yrs B.Tech 35lakhs PA, well educated family, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct:9380791999/ 9841329471

AGE 46 Second Marriage Own Business Expectation are Well Settled Divorce Widow with Child Consent. Age & Caste No Bar. Contact: 99625 12829

AGAMUDAIYAR UTHIRADAM 34/180, B.Tech, TCS, Hyderabad, 2L pm, seeks Equally Qualified bride, Caste No Bar. Contact: 8220984182

VADAKALAI SRIVATSAM Revathy Feb 1984 /180 cm MS Ph.D (U S) Postdoc (E U) Program Lead in policy research think – tank New Delhi. Seeking professionally qualified bride. Kalai No bar Whatsapp: 9840603178

AGE 46, 2nd Marriage, Working in Hospital at Qatar. Suitable Bride who willing to come Qatar. Ct: +97433840227 / 9498328263

VANNIAKULA KSHATRIYA(CNB) 34, BE. Well settled IT Consultant, Chennai. Father Business, Mother St Govt. Officer, seeks bride. Ph: 9080446692

RELIABLE GENUINE Life Partner Age 45-55 Seeks for Widower 65 Vokkaliga B.E. Well Settled With Own House. Widow or Divorced Also Ct : 9791556546.

HINDU–BE/33/172CM/SWE/SC/AYILLAM–KATAGAM/24 LPA . Family is financially well off, educated and settled in Bangalore . Looking for a suitable Bride from the same/other community, with good family values. Contact No 9845401461.

HINDU NADAR 28 Aswini BE MBA IIM Ahmedabad 3 Laks Per Month working at Chennai. Seeks Doctor / IAS / Group 1 Officer. Bride. 84388 37195

MUDALIAR ELITE 28/172 V.Handsome B.Tech,MS, SWE,MNC, USA,150000 USD.PA,30.Cr, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

BALIJA NAIDU 26yrs B.Tech Well educated family background, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct:9710093999/ 9710091999

HINDU, CASTE no bar, 29yrs, MBM,Business Professional at Madurai. Income 10 crore Ph. 7356483111

HINDU, DEVAR, 37yrs, B.E, Software professional at USA. Income 1 crore Ph. 9048444840

AGE 56 Individual Prospective Individual Dependent Above 50 Years of Age. Please Contact : 9962582006

OFFICER, 58, Govt Dept Separated, Looking For Independent Broad Minded, Well Settled Woman 50+ With or Without Issues As a Companion Genuine Person. Call: 9585245551

NAIDU CASTE–NOBAR 27/181CM Fair Handsome, Rich B.E.,M.S., Business, Chennai 5Lakhs PA. Seeks Good Looking, Fair Bride 9345985323/ 9384884888

PILLAI CASTE–NOBAR 28/180CM/Fair/ Handsome,Well Settled/ B.E NIT/ Bangalore/ 36Lks PA/Seeks Looks / Educated. Contact: 9840782222, 9840023345

TAMIL

41YRS,176 CMS, Fair, Athletic,Teetotaler, Non Smoker, Divorced. Masters from UK. Well settled in Chennai.Entrepreneur & Legal consultant, Hindu(Caste No Bar) Call : 9840234030

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HINDU, IYENGAR, 31yrs, B.E,LLB,MBA, Business Professional at Chennai. Income 25 lakhs Ph. 8138900412

BRIDE WANTED
Mudaliar 28/180 Handsome M.S. (Mktg) USA, Having Own Manufacturing Industry Chennai, Elite Family Seeks Well Educated Bride, Affluent/Business Family
9382137912 / 8825401763

Hindu, Seeking Bride for Accounts professional, Professionally qualified groom, age 30/190cm, with a Bachelor of Arts in Finance, Educated & raised in Australia, active, fit & enjoys sports. Bride Preferences: Looking for an educated, may be fair-complexioned with a slim build. Cultural and religious values are appreciated. Parents visiting india end November 24.
Father's WhatsApp: +61 468889084

SCAD 30 ME Private 10 LPA seeks Chennai based Prof.qualified working bride. Contact 9444445875

HINDU Maruthuvar 29/165cm fair B.E MBA, M.Sc. Employed seeks qualified Emplyd gd looking CNB. 90950 99177

BRAHMIN Iyengar 34/166cm B.Tech working in Bangalore seeks Educated, working Bride from same Caste / Allied caste Mail: padhukrishna4@gmail.com Call: +91 9498052220

TAMIL

HINDU NAIDU, 29/193cm, US/NC. Staff Engr. MS /H1B visa. Boy seeks Professional Tamil girl in US, able to relocate NC. 9444928128/9444145987

HINDU AD, PR, 28/167cm, M.D. seeks preferably Doctor Bride or A,B Grade Govt Employee. Whts up.94442 18149

Saiva Pillai 29/180 MTech Biotech Research Scientist Ahmedabad seeks Educated Employed Bride Contact: 94426 49298

Brahmin Iyengar
Employed in a MNC at DUBLIN, IRISH CITIZEN, Age: 29, Height: 188 cm. Looking for a career-oriented BRAHMIN GIRL. Please mail the complete profile, interests and hobbies.
Email id: weddingpn24@gmail.com

TELUGU

RICH NAIDU, 29yrs, BE, Elite business family in Chennai. Seeks Suitable Bride Ct: 9710093999 / 9710091999

NAIDU ELITE 30/180 Very Handsome BE,MBA Accenture 3000000.PA, Father Builder, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

CHENNAI BASED Naidu 45 B.Tech MS, USA, Self Employed Divorcee no issues seeks suitable bride. 8056144909

KAMMA 31/180 CM, Fair,Handsome,Affluent Family,Caste NoBar, MBBS.MD. DM Chennai 4Lks PM.Seeks Good Looking Drs/Non Drs 9385599044, 9382554555

BALIJA 29/185CM Fair,Beautiful,Upper Middle Class, MS.PHD.USA SWE Seeks India/ USA 9380475999, 9383199099

NAIDU 56YEARS, 2nd marriage, no issue, well settled, upper middle. Contact : 9944533545

Reddiar, 34, B.Tech, Cent. Govt, 70k pm, Divorcee, no child, seeks bride. ph: 9841935690

URDU

SMU 33/167 MBA Divorcee 2months, Sr.salesExe, KIA Motors 6L/PA, seeks religious bride. Chennai: 98844 39932

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Litter trouble for city's lung spaces

Regular visitors complain that food waste, bottles are littered around Lalbagh and Cubbon Park

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

Every morning, when we come to Lalbagh for our walk, we find leftover food and wrappers, soft drink bottles and other litter lying around. These are left by the people who buy things from hawkers inside but refuse to put the waste in the bins. The waste collection only starts from 9.30 a.m. onwards," said P. Sadashiva, president, Lalbagh Walkers Association.

Although plastic is completely banned on the premises of Lalbagh Botanical Garden, littering of other materials goes on despite the reported efforts of vendors to keep it contained to dustbins.

Around the famous rock structure in Lalbagh are scores of vendors who have their business set up on tables. They sell flavoured milk, soft drinks, cucumbers, corn, raw mangoes among other things. There are also ice cream carts spread across the garden.

These vendors have been here for generations. Many of these vendors do not have dustbins near their stalls and ask the buyers to look for dustbins and dispose the waste. This invariably leads to littering. "We have strict instructions to not sell anything plastic. So, we do not do that. We use biodegradable materials, and we always ask buyers to look for a dustbin and dispose of it. While the visitors from foreign countries always throw them in bins, our people fail to do it and thus litter the place," said Shanthamma (name changed), a vendor in Lalbagh.

These vendors have been here for generations. Many of these vendors do not have dustbins near their stalls and ask the buyers to look for dustbins and dispose the waste. SUDHAKARA JAIN

A similar litter problem exists in Cubbon Park too. Here hawkers are not allowed inside but are allowed to set up shop outside the gates.

"In Cubbon Park, people are allowed to bring their own food or from the vendors outside and eat it inside. Unfortunately, most of them never throw the waste in the bins. When we come in after public holidays especially, we can see a lot of waste around, including plastic water bottles. There are also coffee and tea vendors who sell them in wax coated cups which are again thrown around the park," said Sunita Kumar from Cubbon Park Conservation Committee. She added, "Another problem is that of diapers. Parents do not go to washrooms but end up changing diapers in the park and throwing them away behind trees or in corners. We also see these balloons which are up on the trees which are almost as dangerous as manja to birds."

The Horticulture Department denies that there is any littering inside both the lung spaces.

"In Lalbagh, they have their fixed places near the rock, and they do not come anywhere else. In Cubbon Park, we have no hawkers at all. Even if there is some littering, our teams are constantly on the ground cleaning the park. The citizens should also become more aware and use dustbins," said D.S. Ramesh, director, Horticulture Department.

Even though the officials claim that the hawkers are only restricted to one place in Lalbagh, long term hawkers there said that the newer ones are found near the lake and scattered at some other places.

Visitors too admit that they are sometimes heckled by these vendors.

Visitors say that a designated vending zone in Lalbagh might help keep all the businesses contained in one place and possibly help stop littering.

"We do not want to move away from here (near the rock) as people are used to buying from us here. A more organised set up could help us with security. In the nights, when we leave our stock here and go, a lot of it is stolen sometimes by residents of neighbouring areas who bully the security guards and come in," Ms. Shanthamma added.

BBMP issues over 48,000 final e-khatas till date

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike which has recently launched faceless, contactless, and online e-khata system has started digitally approving final e-khata for those applying for the same.

According to the latest data shared by the Revenue Department of the BBMP, till Friday, the 48,000 final e-khatas were issued digitally without any hindrance.

The officials in the BBMP say this would eradicate corruption in the system for procuring khata. This scheme was launched for a test run on October 1. The property owners have to visit www.bbmpeAasthi-.karnataka.gov.in website for procuring e-khata.

The State government has made e-khata mandatory for registration of properties and hence downloading the final e-khata is necessary for the owners.

Although the website saw a download of 5 lakh drafts of e-khatas in just 24 days after the new system was launched, not a single draft e-khata was approved for issuance final e-khata. This was due to mandatory uploading of the Encumbrance Certificate (EC), which was not available online.

The State government has made e-khata mandatory for registration of properties and hence downloading the final e-khata is necessary for the owners. FILE PHOTO

Understanding this barrier, the civic body relaxed the norm and made uploading ECs optional. Days after this, the system started to approve final khata.

A senior BBMP official from Revenue Department said, "As per the latest data available in the back end, over 48,000 final e-khatas were issued and numbers will grow exponentially in the coming days. This happened after EC option was removed from the list of documents which should be mandatorily uploaded." The official further said however for registration of properties EC is mandatory and during that time owners can apply for EC and secure the document from the sub-registrar offices.

BBMP officials say the online system will eradicate corruption in the process of procuring khata

Meanwhile, more than 10 lakh draft e-khatas have been downloaded and the final e-khatas will be approved by the software in all these cases, depending on whether all the required documents have been uploaded in the system.

Security guard on the run after stealing jewellery worth ₹15 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Vijayanagar police are on the hunt for a 32-year-old security guard accused of stealing gold, diamond jewellery, and cash worth ₹15.15 crore from his employer's house last week.

The suspect, Namraj from Nepal, had been employed six months ago as a security guard at Arihanth Jewellers on Magadi Road. Since he lacked housing, his employer, Surendra Kumar Jain, provided him and his wife with accommodation in the basement of his residence.

In addition to his duties at the jewellery shop, Namraj assisted with maintaining the terrace garden and other household tasks.

On November 1, Mr. Jain and his family left for Gujarat to attend a function. Upon their return on November 7, they found Namraj missing and their house ransacked.

ILLUSTRATION BY SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

Stolen items included 18 kg of gold and diamond jewellery, along with ₹40 lakh in cash. According to Mr. Jain, the valuables belonged to his wife, mother, and sister. He had transferred the items from the shop to his home for safekeeping.

The police have registered a case of theft and suspect that Namraj has fled to his hometown. His mobile phone remains switched off. Investigations suggest that Namraj, his wife, and two accomplices executed the theft in the early hours of November 3.

The police believe the suspect gained the family's trust and accessed the house keys.

A team has been dispatched to track them, said S. Girish, DCP, West Division.

Three killed in a car-lorry collision on Kanakapura road

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three people were killed when a car they were travelling by collided head-on with a lorry on Kanakapura road on the outskirts of the city on Saturday evening.

They have been identified as Satish, Manjunath, and Ramachandra, all aged between 27 and 30 and residents of Chamarajpet, Bengaluru.

They were working for a real estate firm and had been to Sangama on a joy ride and were returning when a truck laden with crushed stones crashed into them head-on at around 5.45 p.m. near Hulibele village.

The impact of the collision was so huge that the front portion of the car was severely mangled and the trio in the car were killed on the spot. The truck driver abandoned the vehicle and fled the scene soon after the accident. Villagers rushed to the spot and tried to rescue the passengers, but they were all dead by then.

They were working for a real estate firm and were on their way back from a joy ride to Sangama

The Kanakapura Rural police rushed to the spot and shifted the bodies to Kanakapura government hospital.

Senior police officials who visited the spot said that both the vehicles were speeding and it was yet to be ascertained what caused the accident. The officials said that only a technical investigation of the vehicles by the transport department can throw more light on what may have caused the accident. Meanwhile, efforts are on to track down the truck driver for further investigation.

45-year-old home-alone woman murdered; son prime suspect

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 45-year-old woman was found murdered at her house at Hongasandra, Bommanahalli, in the early hours of Saturday. Police now suspect her elder son to have killed her and are on the lookout for him. He is presently absconding.

The deceased, Jayamma, a native of Tamil Nadu, was living in a leased house with her younger son Girish, an employee with the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC).

The murder came to light on Saturday night when Girish's friend Prabhakar Reddy, came to drop off groceries, while Girish was at work. Prabhakar realised that Jayamma was not responding to knocks on the door and asked the house owner for help.

With the help of a spare key, they opened the door to find Jayamma lying in a pool of blood with multiple head injuries.

She was smothered to death before being assaulted, a police officer said adding that the accused had smashed her head against the wall multiple times.

Probe revealed that Jayamma had two sons and the elder son Umesh, also a driver by profession used to fight with mother frequently demanding a share in the property. Jayamma had recently sold her ancestral property. Umesh, who was staying separately, used to come home and fight with her frequently.

The police are now on the lookout for the elder son, who is on the run. Efforts are on to track him down, Sara Fathima, DCP (South-East), Bengaluru City Police said.

UVCE invites applications

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) has invited applications for the post of guest faculty to teach environmental science for engineering students of the 5th semester for the academic year 2024-25.

Candidates with a degree in Master of Science (environmental science or life science) can submit their applications in the prescribed form available on the UVCE website. Applications should be submitted along with copies of relevant documents to the office of the registrar, UVCE, by November 20. For further details, candidates can visit https://uvce.karnataka.gov.in/en

Cab driver booked for harassing passenger

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The International Airport police have registered a case against a cab driver for allegedly harassing a 34-year-old doctor on the pretext of dropping her home from the airport pick-up point on Friday.

The victim, Nikhita Malik, had landed at the airport from Delhi and booked a taxi at around 10 p.m. The accused, identified as Basavaraju, approached her and offered her to drop. Even though she noticed that the car she had booked was different, he convinced her to board the taxi and started driving. While driving the car the accused started demanding ₹1,500 for the trip citing that it was a sedan while the victim said that she had booked it for ₹1,300. Suspecting something fishy, Dr. Malik asked him to drop her back to the airport, but the accused continued to drive and stopped at a petrol pump asking her to pay ₹500 for the fuel.

At this juncture, the victim called 112 and reported the matter for which the accused brought her back to the airport and dropped her. The victim later took down the cab number and filed a complaint with the police seeking action. Based on the complaint the police have registered a case of impersonation for further investigation.

The Hindu had recently reported on such cases where cab drivers ferrying passengers to the airport demanding money, for refuelling the vehicle midway and refusing to return the excess money.

HC seeks service records of 38-year-old ACF on the allegation her claiming to have Scheduled Caste status

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has summoned the service records and details of all the criminal cases filed by Seema H., an Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF), after taking note of the allegation that she had changed the name and religion of her father and claimed that she belonged to Hindu-Adi Karnataka community, a Scheduled Caste (SC).

She has also filed several cases against many, including some by invoking the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

The court passed the order on a petition filed by Pradeepkumar, a city-based advocate, who had questioned the registration of a First Information Report (FIR) against him by Vidhana Soudha police on the complaint by Ms. Seema.

"Whether the complainant [Ms. Seema] has secured employment contending that she is the one belonging to Scheduled Caste or not, is a matter which requires to be noticed and considered by the State," Justice M. Nagaprasanna observed in the order while asking the authorities to submit her service records.

The complaint

She had lodged a complaint of forgery against the petitioner-advocate, her father, and another person on October 10, 2024, in connection with a letter written in her name to the head of the Forest Department by allegedly forging her signature, in which complaint of harassment was made against her immediate superior officer.

She had also alleged in the complaint that her father, who is a retired employee of the Forest Department, had deserted his wife and children, and he is now trying to bring bad name to her. The petitioner-advocate and others are attempting to keep a track on her by securing records related to her under RTI Act, she had claimed.

Matrimonial case

However, it has been alleged in the petition that Ms. Seema, 38 has targeted the petitioner as he is representing one Vinod V. in a matrimonial case filed by her before a civil court in October, 2017, alleging that her husband [Vinod] has failed to fulfil her conjugal rights.

The petitioner-advocate had also filed applications under RTI Act to secure her credentials like names of her parents, religion, caste, school data, service records, etc., on behalf of Mr. Vinod, who has denied having married her.Senior Advocate D.R. Ravishankar, appearing for the petitioner, pointed out that petitioner-advocate had secured Ms. Seema's records, including SSLC marks card under RTI Act, which discloses her father's name as H.K.M. Harshad and mother's name as Pyarijan and they belong to Muslim religion.

Ms. Seema filed a civil suit in 2014 in which she got an *ex-parte* decree with a declaration that the name of her father is not 'H.K.M. Harshad' but it is 'H.K. Mariswamy' and he belong to Scheduled Caste.

In this suit, there were four defendants, all are officers of the State government, and they remain ex-parte.

Ms. Seema and Mr. Vinod, who was her senior during post-graduation, were friends, and she had claimed that she married him at a park, known as *Jinkevana* in Chikkamagaluru, as per Hindu rituals in August, 2017, when she was serving in Chikkamagaluru.

However, Mr. Vinod's father lodged a complaint on August 11, 2017, that his son, who went to meet Ms. Seema, had not returned home.

On his return, Mr. Vinod himself lodged a complaint on August 14, 2017, against her alleging that she took him to Chikkamagaluru on the pretext of asking him to drive her new car from showroom to the city's outskirts but later allegedly kidnapped him.

Final check: Jockeys make sure the tethering is in place before the race.

In a blur: A jockey races cattle through a muddy track in a paddy field.

Adrenaline rush: Keeping the cattle on course is no mean feat.

On the grandstand: Race enthusiasts gather to witness the cattle race.

Victory lap: A team of jockeys and fans celebrate their triumph in the cattle race.

Report: State is projected to have a peak demand of over 33,000 MW by 2034-35

The report titled 'Resource Adequacy of Karnataka', submitted by Power Corporation of Karnataka Limited was accepted by the State government on October 16

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

Between the financial year (FY) 2022-23, overall energy sales in Karnataka went up by 22.7%, the highest growth over a decade. Based on previous sales, consumption and other drivers the peak demand in the State is expected to cross 33,000 Megwatts (MW) by 2034-35, according to a report titled 'Resource Adequacy of Karnataka' submitted by the Power Corporation of Karnataka Limited (PCKL) to the State government recently.

With monsoons failing 2023-24, the State had a record peak demand (over 17,000 Megawatts) and faced a power crunch for over a month. The officials from the Energy Department attribute this to be one of the reasons for a growth in energy sales in 2023-24.

Energy sales in Karnataka

Year	Sales (in million units)	Growth %
2019-20	58,011	-1.2%
2020-21	54,915	-5.3%
2021-22	58,450	6.4%
2022-23	62,263	6.5%
2023-24	76,414	22.7%

Source: Resource Adequacy of Karnataka

Projected peak demand
2024 – 25: 16,271 MW 2034 – 35: 33,310 MW

Reasons for sale

"There were two reasons why our sales went up in 2023-24 - one was economic recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic and the other was due to the low rainfall which led to increased consumption. The electricity demand for irrigation pump sets and other devices went up. When compared to the previous year, this year (2024-25) we might not see as much growth in sales as there has been good rainfall," Gaurav Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy Department, told *The Hindu*.

With such unpredictable patterns, the Energy Department decided to conduct a resource assessment.

The report was prepared by Power Research and Development Consultants Pvt. Ltd., a consulting firm and was accepted by the State government on October 16.

The report considered the impact of open access, distributed energy resources, demand response, Electric Vehicles (EV), tariff signals, specific energy consumption, energy efficiency measures and impact of econometric parameters to create demand projections.

The report also subtracts solar rooftop generated power, whose capacity is projected to touch 1,468 MW by 2034-35, from the total energy sales. The long-term forecasting study for the State has been performed for three agricultural scenarios - average rainfall, high rainfall and low rainfall.

Based on the average rainfall scenario, the peak demand for the ongoing year (2024-25) has been projected at 16,271 MW. The numbers are expected to gradually increase by 2034-35 to 33,310 MW. The penetration of EVs is expected to be one of the major drivers of demand in the State. The projections show that the energy consumption of EVs will jump from 638 Million Units (MU) in 2024-25 to 22,705 MU in 2034-35.

"In terms of power availability, one should always keep a margin of 20%-30%. After last year, we have realised that for a poor monsoon year, we need to have a higher power reserve. This report will help us take up resource adequacy measures in the coming years with regard to how we equip our generation and transmission systems. We are anyway geared up for it now," Mr. Gupta said about the intent behind the report.

Recommendations

Among the many recommendations given by the report addition of capacity is one of the major ones. It recommends that along with a firm capacity or thermal equivalent of 8,496 MW proposed by PCKL, 1,970 MW proposed by KPCL and an additional 3,000 MW should be contracted over the next 11 years. The report also stresses the addition of Renewable Energy Capacity and energy storage.

The report will now be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for validation and then to the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) for approval.

Don't get carried away by the fantastic jargon of patriarchy stopping us, says Nirmala

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Exhorting women not to be bogged down by any obstacles, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman advised them not to be carried away by "fantastic jargon" like patriarchy. Leftist jargon, she said, "hold currency because we don't stand up."

Responding to a question posed by a girl student on obstacles patriarchy creates, Ms. Sitharaman said, at JAIN Deemed-to-be-University in Bengaluru on Saturday, "Who stopped Mrs. Indira Gandhi from becoming the Prime Minister of this country?... And before that Aruna Asaf Ali, Sarojini Naidu...Which patriarchy stopped any of these people? I want to honestly appeal to all the young minds. Don't get carried away by these fantastic jargon of patriarchy stopping us...Otherwise, we women would have gone to Mars yesterday."

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during the interactive session with students at Jain (Deemed to be University) in Bengaluru on Saturday. ANI

'Leftist jargon'

Ms. Sitharaman further said, "You will find women have played their roles, and only in India, many of the Leftist jargon hold currency because we don't stand up, we don't have the time.... Sometimes intellectual engagement is equally important because narratives will have to be countered. Narratives will have to be countered with substantial answers."

The Finance Minister claimed that 40% of all government procurement was coming from Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises

Digital revolution

Answering another question, Ms. Sitharaman said it was only in India that the digital revolution was entirely public funded.

"India's approach to spreading digital networks was completely driven by the government. This public infrastructure which was created gave benefits to every user without having to pay for it. So a small business which wanted to grow beyond their village, today is reaching not just their neighboring district or not just their State's capital, they are accessing global markets," she said.

The Jan Dhan Yojana initiative was a key step toward ensuring financial inclusion, allowing people nationwide to access banking services as a precursor to digital banking revolution, she added.

On innovators

Responding to a question on the prospects of innovators in the country, Ms. Sitharaman said apart from creating a conducive environment for innovators, the government is also working to ensure markets are created for these innovations. She claimed that 40% of all government procurement was coming from Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) and that is why the country had over two lakh startups, of which 13 are unicorns.

(With inputs from PTI)

KJCIKS hosts 'Sanskritika' celebrating India's cultural heritage

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Sanskritika exhibition, organised by the Kristu Jayanti Centre for Indian Knowledge System (KJCIKS), was held recently. The exhibition showcased the rich legacy of India's knowledge systems across various fields, including science, technology, art, culture, and medicine. It aimed to promote, preserve, and integrate traditional Indian knowledge within an academic environment.

Fr. Deepu Joy, Director of Student Welfare Office at Kristu Jayanti College, inaugurated the exhibition. He said "Wherever we live in the world, the essence of Indian knowledge is present–be it in healthcare practices like ayurveda and unani, or in fields such as mathematics and education."

In the exhibition, students were given a unique platform to display creative models and exhibits illustrating ancient Indian wisdom and innovations that have shaped society for centuries.

Through displays ranging from traditional farming techniques to health practices such as ayurveda, the event highlighted artisanal skills and sustainable practices rooted in ancient knowledge.

VTU offers incentives to nurture research talent among faculty and students

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

To harness and nurture the research talent among faculty members and students, the Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) has, for the first time, offered incentives for research.

The VTU has reserved ₹2 crore for research incentives and has also released research promotion guidelines. The processing of applications will be done on a first come, first served basis.

A file photo of the Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi

Why this initiative

VTU-Belagavi encompasses two constituent colleges, and approximately 215 affiliated engineering colleges and architecture schools throughout Karnataka. It also recognises 986 research centres across its departments, affiliated colleges, and selected industries.

Currently, about 3,50,000 students are enrolled in various undergraduate, post-graduate, and research programmes. The faculty includes around 20,000 qualified individuals, with approximately 5,314 of them holding doctoral degrees, teaching at both undergraduate and post-graduate levels within the university and its affiliated colleges. Additionally, there are about 4,000 qualified research supervisors in VTU departments and affiliated colleges who oversee Ph.D scholars pursuing their degrees.

Therefore, to ensure uniformity, transparency, and adherence to high standards of research beyond the minimum requirements set by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the VTU has decided to offer incentives for research activities.

Research incentives

According to the guidelines, the VTU will be offering incentives ranging from ₹4,000 to ₹8,000 for journal papers for faculty members and students, ₹3,000 for conference papers, and ₹5,000 for book chapters.

For sponsored research projects, it will provide the incentive equal to 5% of the project grant, limited to a maximum of ₹1 lakh per project.

For product development and innovation, it will provide ₹2 to ₹5 lakh. Incentive of ₹25,000 for patents, 30% of the cost for registration of copyright will be given.

The university has decided to reimburse 50% of registration fee for faculty members and students who attend national conferences. For international conferences, along with reimbursement of 50% of registration fee, economy air fare and on-duty and daily allowances will be given. Around ₹1,500 to ₹10,000 will be given for publication of books, apart from ₹10,000 for product development.

"Previously, we had to attend national and international conferences at our own expense. It is good that VTU has now announced that it will reimburse 50% of the registration fee along with economy air fare. The money saved from this will be spent on research activities," said an assistant professor of a private engineering college in Bengaluru.

Incentive ranging from ₹1,000 to ₹3,000 will also be given to students winning competitions at the national level, State level and hackathons or project competitions.

S. Vidyashankar, Vice-Chancellor of VTU, told *The Hindu*, "These incentives are designed to encourage the publication of research papers, patents, and other scholarly works. It will support conducting high-quality research, facilitate technology transfer, and protect intellectual property, all while staying aligned with the university's mission and values. Online applications have already been invited. All faculty members and students should make use of this programme."

Two cleaners found dead

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two cleaners of a private bus service were found dead under mysterious circumstances at the parking shed in Seegehalli in Bagalur on Saturday morning.

The deceased have been identified as Nagesh, 55, and his associate Manjunath, 50, The duo along with another employee had been working at a shed as cleaners and living there for the past two years. The third employee, identified as Suresh, is presently missing and police suspected that he might have killed them over a drunken brawl and fled the scene.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, NOV. 10
RISE 06:16 SET 17:51
RISE 13:35 SET 00:39

MONDAY, NOV. 11
RISE 06:17 SET 17:51
RISE 14:17 SET 01:35

TUESDAY, NOV. 12
RISE 06:17 SET 17:51
RISE 14:59 SET 02:31

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	31	20
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower at few places.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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'Krishna to Kaveri' festival concludes today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Azim Premji University and the Bangalore International Centre (BIC) on Saturday launched a two-day festival, 'Krishna to Kaveri', to showcase the artistic and intellectual heritage of Karnataka.

Held at the BIC in Domlur, the festival has a series of events till 9 p.m. on Sunday.

The festival, which blends tradition with contemporary forms, was inaugurated by renowned theatre and film director T.S. Nagabharana and author and Director of Kannada and Culture Department Dharanidevi Malagatti. The opening included a celebratory procession highlighting Karnataka's diverse folk art traditions.

'Krishna to Kaveri' is designed to introduce Karnataka's cultural landscape to newcomers and reconnect long-time residents with their State's rich history. Key highlights of the event include interactive demonstrations of traditional crafts, such as Chittara mural art, Kasuti embroidery, and Kawandi quilt-making, led by master artisans.

The musical programme on the first day included a lecture-demonstration by renowned Hindustani vocalist Nagaraj Rao Havaldar, on the evolution of Hindustani music in Karnataka, and Chitra Srikrishna's exploration of Carnatic traditions.

A lecture, 'The story of how Karnataka was born', was delivered by Rajendra Chenni and Vikhar Ahmed Sayeed.

The festival also featured performances like Yakshagana and Gombe Mane leather puppetry.

On Sunday, the event will include a food festival and art exhibition open to the public.

The festival will close with a fusion concert, 'Kayaka', by M.D. Pallavi and Bruce Lee Mani, blending traditional poetry with modern musical expression.

Chitra Santhe on January 5

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 22nd edition of the famed 'Chitra Santhe' the annual art exhibition organised by the Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath (CKP) will be held on January 5, 2025.

More than 1,200 artists and over 5 lakh visitors are expected to participate in the Santhe.

The exhibition will be held on CKP campus and Kumara Krupa Road.

Couple arrested for growing ganja plants

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Sadashivanagar police have arrested a couple hailing from Nepal who were growing ganja plants in their kitchen garden in the city.

The couple used to make short video reels and upload them on social media. In one such video, ganja plants growing in pots were visible.

One of the viewers tipped off the police about the ganja plants.

Following this, a police team raided the house in MSR Nagar and arrested Urmila Kumari, 38 and her husband Sagar Gurang, 37. According to the police the duo was working in a private firm and confessed to the police that they are cultivating ganja plants in their kitchen garden to sell it to their customers.

APPOINTMENT

BLDE ASSOCIATION
Smt. Bangaramma Sajjan campus, B.M. Patil Road, Vijayapur 586103, State: Karnataka. Ph: 08352-262770, E-mail: careers@bldea.org

RECRUITMENT

BLDE Association, a premier educational association established in the year 1910, having more than 80 educational institutions is inviting applications from the experienced teachers with good communication and administrative skills for the post of

PRINCIPAL

in the following institution.

V.P. Dr. P G Halakatti College of Engineering & Technology.

Essential Qualification & Experience:
(i) Ph.D. Degree and First Class or equivalent at either Bachelor's or Master's level in the relevant branches of Engineering as per AICTE norms.
(ii) At least two successful Ph.D. guided as supervisor / Co-Supervisor and minimum 8 research publications in SCI journals / UGC / AICTE approved list of journals.
(iii) Minimum 15 years of experience in teaching/ research/ industry, out of which at least 3 years shall be at the post equivalent to that of Professor. Post Ph.D publications and guiding Ph.D students is highly desirable.

Desirable: Substantial administrative experience is desirable and flair for management & leadership is essential.

Interested candidates shall send their applications with detailed bio-data and relevant documents through e-mail at careers@bldea.org within 10 days of this publication.

Sd/-
General Secretary

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Decades on, nothing much has changed for these Dalit families

Sharath S. Srivatsa
CHANNAPATNA

Around 5.30 p.m., Gowramma, in her 40s, is about to leave for her night shift at a popular eatery along the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway. She says she will return around 6 a.m. the next day but will remain tensed about the rain that may pound the area around her thatched hut that has been her home for over a decade now.

2022 flooding

It was on the night of November 29, 2022, that many in her Dalit neighbourhood called Gandhi Grama on the outskirts of Kolluru village in the Channapatna Assembly constituency had their lives saved in the nick of time as floodwaters rose to dangerous levels, drowning their huts. A widow with a young son, Ms. Gowramma works as a daily wager at the restaurant, a couple of kilometres away from her hut. She has left her son with her sister-in-law as she struggles to make ends meet.

As the election fever grips Channapatna with heavy political stakes involved, 10 families, including that of Ms. Gowramma's – all belonging to the Adi Karnataka community – remain optimistic about having a house of their own. For over two decades, elections have come and promises of pucca houses have been made but the families continue to remain in huts. With about 171 electors in the Dalit colony, politicians make a beeline for their votes, the residents said.

Long wait: Residents of Gandhi Grama near Kolluru in Channapatna taluk of Ramanagara district say they have no other place to go as they cannot afford anything else from the livelihood they eke out.
K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

While there are no individual water and sanitary connections, the local panchayat has drawn a common water line to ensure the supply of potable water; the residents relieve themselves in the farms nearby. The panchayat has also enabled solar power supply. Though stench and mosquitoes make life grim and unhygienic, the residents say they have no other place to go as they cannot afford anything else from the livelihood they eke out. Almost all of them work as construction labourers or as daily wage workers.

Incidentally, in 2017, the then Siddaramaiah government announced that Karnataka would be made a "hut-free State". In the 2022 floods – the first rain-induced inundation in the area which was blamed on the elevation of the new highway – almost all residents lost their caste and income certificates, marks cards, and Aadhaar, among other documents. "We are slowly building these documents again," said Sneha, who has dropped out of college due to financial constraints and works in a store nearby.

Ten families continue to live in huts without basic amenities in spite of promises made by political leaders to provide them pucca houses

Bommai's visit

"After the inundation, the government gave ₹10,000 per family as compensation for the loss of cattle and goats." The Gandhi Grama hit the headlines in 2022 when the colony got inundated and the then Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai visited the village, promising to build houses.

It was around 40 years ago that the Dalit families moved out of Koluru village and settled on its outskirts. While about 50 families living in huts were resettled on about 2.1 acres some years ago, the adjacent about half an acre land on which 10 families live in huts remains the bone of contention.

"As the tenancy of the land has been given to an individual at Koluru, he is seeking money to transfer the land rights to those dwelling on it. We have been asking the government to buy it from him and transfer it to us. The Mudigere Gram Panchayat under which the colony comes also passed a resolution urging the government to help but to no avail," said former gram panchayat member Lokesh Beeraiah.

In the intense electoral battle being fought over Channapatna turf when every vote counts, Congress candidate and five-time former legislator C.P. Yogeshwar and NDA nominee Nikhil Kumaraswamy, whose father, H.D. Kumaraswamy, represented Channaptana twice before, have promised to develop the colony and provide houses for those living in huts. The residents, who have seen many such promises going up in smoke, however, still remain hopeful of a miracle.

D'Cunha panel report on COVID 'scam' adds more heat to bypoll campaign

While Yediyurappa denies the allegation and calls it 'politically motivated', Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, quoting *The Hindu* report, says it has vindicated Congress' earlier stand

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/BALLARI

A day after *The Hindu* reported on the John Michael D'Cunha commission report, which recommended criminal prosecution of former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa and former Health Minister B. Sriramulu over alleged irregularities in the procurement of 3 lakh PPE kits from China in April 2020, at the height of the pandemic, a political slugfest broke out between the ruling and Opposition party leaders.

While Mr. Yediyurappa and Mr. Sriramulu termed the commission's report "politically motivated", Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said he would take a call on the issue after considering the opinion of the Cabinet Sub-Committee headed by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar looking into the commission report.

It led to heated debates, particularly in the campaign rallies in byelection-bound Sandur in Ballari district, from where Mr. Sriramulu hails, and where Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Yediyurappa were campaigning on Saturday.

'Cong. scared of defeat'

Mr. Yediyurappa said, "There was no scam during my tenure as Chief Minister. Everything was done well within the legal framework. We will not be scared by such tactics and we are ready to face any inquiry. The report is politically motivated." He said it only indicated that the Congress was "scared of defeat" in the byelections. Mr. Sriramulu said he worked hard for the people during tough times and the allegations were unfounded. JD(S) State president and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy also said the commission's recommendation was "politically motivated".

Responding to this later in the day, the Chief Minister said, "These allegations are not made by us, but by a retired High Court judge who probed these allegations. Does Mr. Yediyurappa have any respect for the judiciary and the laws of the land?"

Multiple Congress Ministers joined in the attack. Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Priyank Kharge said the report only confirmed what many suspected, that "the BJP government in Karnataka profited during COVID while people lost their lives for the government's apathy".

In a social media post, he also questioned why local suppliers were overlooked and kits imported from China. He questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi as to how a Chief Minister of a State got approvals for imports without the Central government's consent.

Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao said the commission had recommended recovery of crores of money paid to companies for procuring equipment and medicines at higher prices than those prevailing in the market. He said a separate team of officials would be formed to look into these recommendations after the byelections.

In defence of BSY

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok alleged the Congress government in the State was indulging in "vendetta politics" and defended Mr. Yediyurappa. He said in this particular instance, it was not the Chief Minister who selected the suppliers. "Officials selected suppliers who could deliver PPE kits at the earliest. The Chief Minister has only gone with their advice in a time of emergency," he said.
BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra said, "The D'Cunha report seems to be a report of assumptions and presumptions."

(Top) Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with his supporters at a Congress election rally, and (above) BJP leaders B. Sriramulu, B.S. Yediyurappa, Byrati Basavaraj, and G. Janardhana Reddy campaigning, in Sanudur Assembly constituency on Saturday.

CM: More people died because of BJP's corruption than of virus

The Hindu Bureau
BALLARI

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, campaigning in Sandur, told media persons that the John Michael D'Cunha commission report only vindicated their allegations during the pandemic.

"We had said that the BJP government was busy making money out of people's misery. *The Hindu* has reported some excerpts of it... I have not read the commission's full report yet. But I can say this is only the tip of the iceberg," Mr. Siddaramaiah said. "As per an estimate, the corruption was to the tune of ₹10,000 crore to ₹15,000 crore. Whatever might be the data given by the then government about the number of deaths during COVID-19, in our opinion, the number of deaths exceeded 50,000. Had the government taken preventive measures and given medicines, the number of deaths wouldn't have been so much. More people died because of BJP's corruption than of coronavirus," he said.

It is a proxy war between Lad and Reddy in mineral-rich Sandur

Kumar Buradikatti
SANDUR (BALLARI DIST.)

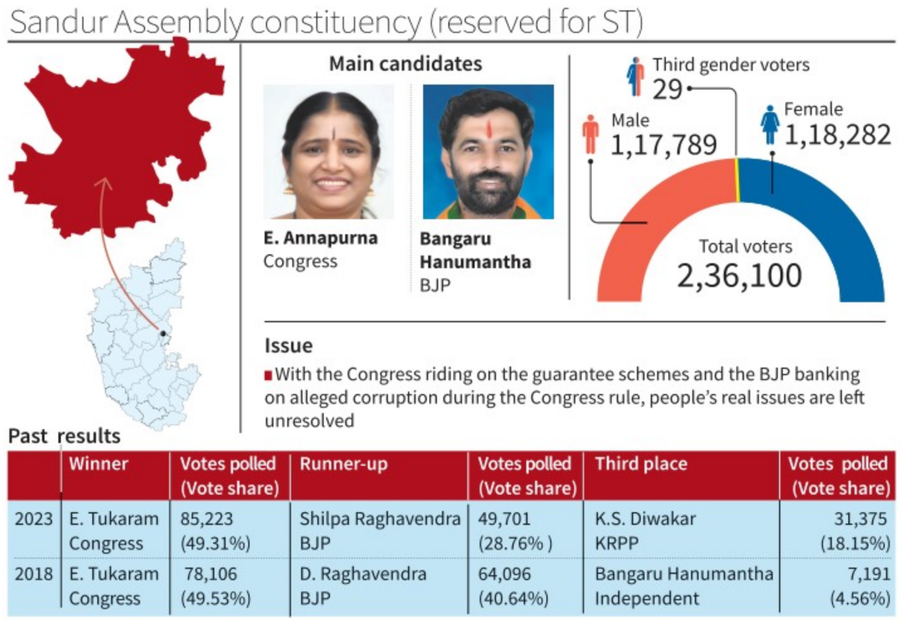
While winter descends to chill the mineral-rich hills and rain-fed plains of Sandur in Ballari district, the heat of campaign by political parties for the November 13 byelection too is catching up here.

The byelection for Sandur, necessitated by the resignation of its incumbent representative E. Tukaram of the Congress, who successfully contested the Lok Sabha election from Ballari, has become a matter of prestige for both the ruling Congress and the Opposition BJP. The fight is between Mr. Tukaram's wife, E. Annapurna, and the BJP's Bangaru Hanumantha, president of the ST Morcha of the party in Karnataka.

Congress fortress

Sandur has been a Congress stronghold since the first Assembly elections held in 1957 when H. Rayana Gouda won. Of the 16 elections held in the constituency since, including a byelection, the Congress has won 14. Janata Party candidate U. Bhupathi and Janata Dal (Secular) candidate Santosh Lad won in 1985 and 2004, respectively.

Mr. Lad, now with the Congress, is leading the campaign for the party. On the BJP's side, mining baron Gali Janardhana Reddy, who was until recently barred from entering into Ballari on account of illegal mining cases, is leading the campaign with great gusto. He got relief from the Supreme Court just ahead of byelection and it has turned out to be an opportunity for him to prove his strength and regain his lost supremacy in the district.



Past results

	Winner	Votes polled (Vote share)	Runner-up	Votes polled (Vote share)	Third place	Votes polled (Vote share)
2023	E. Tukaram Congress	85,223 (49.31%)	Shilpa Raghavendra BJP	49,701 (28.76%)	K.S. Diwakar KRPP	31,375 (18.15%)
2018	E. Tukaram Congress	78,106 (49.53%)	D. Raghavendra BJP	64,096 (40.64%)	Bangaru Hanumantha Independent	7,191 (4.56%)

Though Sandur has been the hotbed of mining activities, often hitting the headlines for illegal mining, this issue is barely resonating in the campaign

Community strength

In the Sandur segment, reserved for the Scheduled Tribes, the Valmiki (Beda/Naik) community is numerically powerful, with an approximate voter size of 65,000, followed by the Scheduled Castes (SCs) with around 40,000 voters, Lingayats - 35,000 voters, Kurubas - 30,000 voters, and Muslims with around 15,000 voters.

Since both candidates are from the Valmiki community, the community votes are expected to get divided. As per the caste calculations of both parties, while the Congress has better influence among the SCs, Kurubas, and Muslims, the BJP holds sway over the Lingayats.

Outsider vs. local

The BJP, with no strong local candidate, had to bet on Mr. Hanumantha, a native of the neighbouring Kudligi. The Congress has missed no opportunity to brand him an "outsider".

There was discontentment over the party's choice of candidate, with aspirant K.S. Diwakar initially raising a banner of revolt. He has been placated to an extent since, with the offer of the post of secretary in the party's State unit. But his supporters still contend that the party stood a better chance with him since he had already begun to work on the field and built a network.

Missing mining issue

Interestingly, though Sandur has been the hotbed of mining activities, often hitting the headlines for illegal mining, this issue has barely resonated during the campaign. Though Mr. Lad has attacked Mr. Reddy in public meetings a few times, citing illegal mining cases, it has not been a central issue.

The extent of damage done to the environment and livelihoods in the mining-ravaged area, the status of rehabilitation and reclamation activities, and other mining-related issues are hardly touched upon in the election campaign. The Congress is mainly riding on its guarantee schemes. The BJP is banking on alleged corruption in the Congress government, repeatedly raising the MUDA issue, the Valmiki corporation 'scam', and most recently the waqf land row with its anti-minority overtones.

Govt. staff warned against consumption of tobacco products on office premises

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

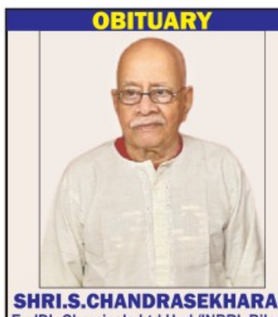
Even as the Health and Family Welfare Department, under the National Tobacco Control Programme, has been creating awareness about the ill effects of smoking and consumption of tobacco products, a section of State government employees appears to be indulging in smoking and chewing on tobacco inside and outside office premises. This continues despite the statutory warnings, noted a circular issued by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms. The circular reiterated the ban on government employees from smoking and using other tobacco products in offices and on their premises. It warned employees of disciplinary action if they are found smoking or consuming gutka, pan masala and other tobacco products in and around government offices.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

R. Shivaji (71), Retired Principal News Photographer, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 08-November-2024. Address: 3/15B, Chinna Mudali Street, Butt Road, St Thomas Mount, Chennai -600016. Contact No: 9790968419

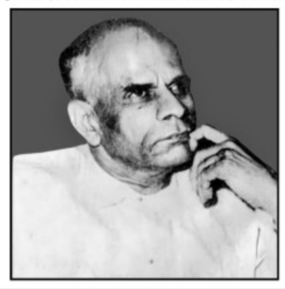
OBITUARY



SHRI.S.CHANDRASEKHARAN
Ex-IDL Chemicals Ltd,Hyd./INBRI, B'lore,
passed away peacefully on
03rd November 2024 in Bangalore
Deeply mourned by
Wife: Smt.Saroja & family
9845591630/ 9845029733
iyershiva@yahoo.com

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

118th BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Dr.V.GANAPATHI IYER M.A.D.SC
Head of the Dept. of Maths (1950 - 1972)
Annamalai University.
President, Indian Mathematical Soc (1957 - 1959)
Presided over the Golden Jubilee meet of IMS in 1958
Chairman Mathematics Section of
Indian Science Congress 1960
A Doyen among Mathematicians.
An Outstanding Teacher and Guide.
A Noble, Simple, Humble Soul.
தலைசிறந்த கணித மேதை, நல்லாசிரியர்
மற்றும் வழிகாட்டி, சீரிய பண்பாளர்
Remembered with Reverence
G.Ramani (Ex.Air India & Emirates Airlines) &
Geetha Ramani (Ex.SBI, Mumbai)

INBRIEF

Will ensure Adani invests in Telangana, says Revanth

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy defended the investments by Adani Group in the State stating that the government was ensuring money is coming into the State as investments while PM Modi was giving away the nation's assets to Adani. "Mr. Modi is giving money to Adani and Telangana was taking the same money from Adani," he said in response to a question at a press conference in Mumbai on Saturday.

KTR slams Cong. govt. over contracts to preferred firms

BRS leader K.T. Rama Rao has alleged that the Congress is utilising Telangana as its 'ATM' to fill its coffers. He said that by awarding the Kodangal Lift Irrigation Scheme works to Megha Engineering and Raghava Constructions, the CM had resorted to making money and sought to know how a company whose inferior work led to the Sunkishala Project retaining wall collapse could be given the works.

Man accused of raping house help surrenders in Kochi

A 75-year-old man accused of raping a tribal woman from Odisha, employed as domestic help in his house in Kochi, surrendered before the police on Saturday. Shortly after, the accused, K. Sivaprasad, complained of discomfort and was admitted to a hospital. He had been absconding since the police filed an FIR last month. His anticipatory bail plea was dismissed by a court on October 29. The Self-Employed Women's Association Union (SEWA-Union) held a protest march to the Kochi Police Commissionerate demanding the immediate arrest of the accused.

Union Minister raises Waqf issue in Wayanad, sparks row

Suresh Gopi says situation in Ernakulam's Munambam, where 600 families are protesting against Waqf Board claims, is similar to that in Manipur; IUML accuses him of whipping up passions

The Hindu Bureau
KALPETTA

Union Minister Suresh Gopi addressing a public meeting in Wayanad district on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Suresh Gopi, Union Minister of State for Tourism and Petroleum and Natural Gas, made headlines with his remarks on the Waqf at a public meeting in Wayanad on Saturday. Mr. Gopi said the term symbolised a disturbing reality.

He was speaking at a gathering in the district to bolster BJP candidate Navya Haridas's campaign in the Wayanad byelection.

He described the situation at Munambam in Ernakulam, where 600 families are protesting against the Waqf Board's claim to their holdings, as similar to that in Manipur. Mr. Gopi added that the Centre would succeed in its efforts in winding up the Waqf Board.

At the event, BJP State vice-president B. Gopalakrishnan stirred further controversy by commenting on the Waqf issue. He insinuated that if the figure Vavar, who is believed to preside beneath the sacred eighteenth step, were to claim Sabarimala as Waqf property, it could prompt Lord Ayyappa's departure from the shrine.

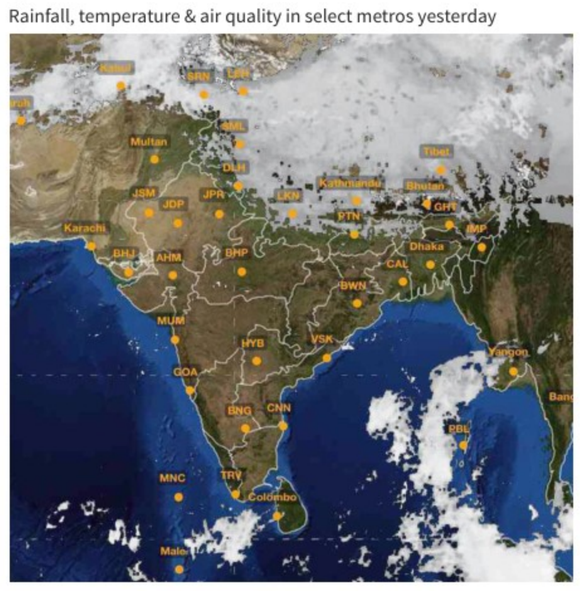
Reacting to the comments, Indian Union Muslim League general secretary P.K. Kunhalikutty accused Mr. Gopi of trying to whip up communal passions instead of initiating a peaceful settlement of the Munambam issue.

Communist Party of India (CPI) State secretary Binoy Viswam criticised the Congress for what he termed "worm-infested politics through its alliance with the BJP." While campaigning for Sathyan Mokeri, the Left Democratic Front candidate, he highlighted the 'covert collaboration' between the two parties, citing recent incidents such as the foodgrain distribution controversy in Wayanad and the alleged transportation of cash in Palakkad.

Mr. Viswam asserted that the Congress' historical actions, including its complicity in the demolition of the Babri Masjid, had not been forgotten by the Muslim community

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy rainfall very likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Dense fog conditions very likely in isolated pockets of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning very likely at isolated places over Kerala.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	31.8	20.4	Kozhikode	—	35.5	26.8
Ahmedabad	—	36.2	22.1	Kurnool	—	34.6	23.4
Aizawl	—	28.2	16.5	Lucknow	—	32.0	19.5
Allahabad	—	33.4	19.8	Madurai	3.0	32.7	23.1
Bengaluru	—	29.2	19.7	Mangaluru	—	33.5	24.5
Bhopal	—	31.0	15.2	Mumbai	—	35.0	24.7
Bhubaneswar	—	32.2	22.3	Mysuru	—	31.4	—
Chandigarh	—	28.1	18.2	New Delhi	—	31.5	17.4
Chennai	0.3	31.0	25.5	Patna	—	30.7	22.6
Coimbatore	—	32.2	22.8	Port Blair	—	31.6	24.3
Dehradun	—	27.4	16.8	Puducherry	—	32.7	25.2
Gangtok	—	19.8	13.5	Pune	—	33.4	19.6
Goa	—	—	—	Raipur	—	32.6	20.2
Guwahati	—	31.0	18.4	Ranchi	—	27.4	17.8
Hubballi	—	32	20	Shillong	—	21.6	10.7
Hyderabad	—	31.2	19.6	Shimla	—	22.9	12.3
Imphal	—	24.9	16.1	Srinagar	—	21.6	4.3
Jaipur	—	34.0	19.9	Thiruvananthapuram	5.0	31.8	24.2
Kochi	—	31.2	—	Tiruchi	—	32.1	24.6
Kohima	—	23.2	12.6	Vijayawada	—	31.7	24.6
Kolkata	—	31.6	23.1	Visakhapatnam	—	32.1	25.7

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	8	18	30	158	149	
Bengaluru	6	15	75	54	80	
Chennai	13	30	29	83	107	
Delhi	11	56	76	405	356	
Hyderabad	7	26	37	144	—	
Kolkata	14	34	24	63	152	
Lucknow	8	7	49	268	189	
Mumbai	33	34	58	215	188	
Pune	—	123	56	219	126	
Visakhapatnam	8	31	53	108	96	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Delhi recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 352 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Palkalaiperur, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 22.

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

DKS promises solution to night travel ban on NH-766

The Hindu Bureau
KALPETTA

The Karnataka government will do everything in its power to address the night traffic ban on the Kozhikode-Kollegal National Highway 766 Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has said.

Addressing a public meeting at Padinjarethara in the district, in connection with the electoral campaign of UDF candidate Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday, Mr. Shivakumar said Ms. Vadra had called him two days ago and said that she would visit Karnataka to discuss the issue of the night travel ban soon.

Mr. Shivakumar said the government would take all necessary steps to lift the night travel restrictions. He said the ban was causing distress for thousands of passengers and students studying in Karnataka.

Waqf row: Officials told to stop mutation process

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid continued protests by the BJP against the alleged classification of agricultural land as waqf board properties in land records in some districts, the Revenue Department on Saturday issued an order directing officials to stop any mutation process initiated in RTCs (Records of Rights, Tenancy and Crops) related to lands being tilled by farmers. It said any notices issued to farmers should be withdrawn immediately, and no action should be initiated against farmers.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had on November 2 announced that the government would withdraw notices served to farmers. The order said that action would be taken against an official who had sent a reminder notice on November 7 despite instructions from the Chief Minister.

Man ends life after killing wife, son

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

A resident of Mulky allegedly killed his wife and their son before ending his life on a railway track on Friday, the city police said on Saturday.

The police said the body of Kartik Bhat, 32, was found on the railway track near Kalapur stationon Friday. The body was highly disfigured. The police found the keys to a scooter and a room. On Saturday, they found a scooter near Mahamayi temple in Belliyur. The key found near the track was used to open the storage box that held a registration certificate, driving licence, and vehicle insurance policy copy. These helped the police identified the deceased as Kartik.

They went to his house in Pakshikere and used the key found near Kartik's body to open the room. His wife Priyanka, 27, and son Hriday, 4, were found dead in the room.

The police allegedly found a note in Kartik's diary where he said he stabbed Priyanka and Hriday to death and that he would end his life.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: Tele Manas 14416 or 18008914416 or KIRAN 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help)

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No. GEM/2024/B/5576794 dated 06.11.2024 DRM(M)'s office, Central Railway, Solapur on behalf of the President of India invites sealed tender from the reputed firms/contractors for the following work. **1. Name of work with its locality:** The contract work of Mechanized cleaning and watering of coaches and cleaning of depot area of Kalaburgi coaching depot for a period of two years on manpower basis. **2. System of tendering:** Two packet system **3. Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 11347615.71 **4. Cost of the Tender form:** Nil **5. Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased:** DRM(M)'s office, Central Railway, Solapur **6. Earnest money to be deposited:** Rs. 2,06,740.00/- **7. Completion period of the work:** Two years from the date of commencement of the work. **8. Date and time for submission of tender:** 28.11.2024 at 18.00 hrs. **9. Date and time of opening of tender:** 28.11.2024 at 18.30 hrs. **10. Website particulars & notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen: www.GeM.gov.in**
ANJ-31
DOWNLOAD UTS APP FOR TICKETS

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೊಳಗೇರಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ
ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಛೇರಿ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.
ನಂ.ಕೆಕೊಅಮ/ಕಾಪಾಅ/ದಾವಿ/ಐ.ಎಫ್.ಟಿ-04/2024-25/ ದಿನಾಂಕ:07-11-2024

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ-2ನೇ ಕರೆ

ಈ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಚಿತ್ರದುರ್ಗ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ನಗರ/ಪಟ್ಟಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಿ.ಎಂ.ಎ.ವೈ-ಹೆಚ್.ಎಫ್.ಎ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಮನೆಗಳ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ 5475-00-115-0-06 ರಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ನಗರದ ವಿವಿಧ ಕೊ.ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 2024-25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಸೆಸ್ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ರಸ್ತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್.ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ಚರಂಡಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-3 & 4 ರ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಗಳಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅದರಂತೆ kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ 15.11.2024 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ Upload ಮಾಡಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ 16.11.2024 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 05.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನು kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

Name of the work:- (1) PROVIDING UGD, STP, ELECTRIFICATION AND WATER SUPPLY FOR 477 DUS AT HIRIYUR TOWN AT CHITHRADURGA DISTRICT. Amount Put Tender:- 1,21,99,553/- EMD (in Rupees):- 3,04,989/- Indent No:- KSDB/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT196

(2) PROVIDING CC ROAD AND RCC DRAIN FOR DIFFERENT SLUMS OF DAVANAGERE CITY. Amount Put Tender:- 84,69,175/- EMD (in Rupees):-2,11,729/- Indent No:- KSDB/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT197

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/488/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024-25

-ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೊಳಗೇರಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ
ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.

Government of Karnataka.
(Public Department)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PWD DIVISION BIDAR
NO: EE/PWD//DIVN/BDR/KKRDB/JE-5/2024-25/2196 Date: 08.11.2024

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, PWD Division Bidar invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers for the WORK INDENT NO. PWD/2024- 25/RD/WORK_INDENT_16252. Amount put to tender for the works are Minimum & Maximum Rs. 230.00 Lakhs. Tender documents may be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of the Govt of Karnataka Viz. https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 08.11.2024. Tenders must be submitted through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on or before 16.00 hours on 22.11.2024. Further any other information can be seen from the e-procurement portal or can be had from the undersigned.

Note: Turn over certificate Without UDI Number will not be considered.

Executive Engineer,
PWD Divn. Bidar.

Government of Karnataka.
(Public Works, Department)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PWD DIVISION BIDAR
NO: EE/PWD//Dvn/Bdr/JE-3/2024-25/ Date: 29/10/24

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, PWD Divn. Bidar invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers, for PWD/2024-25/SE0207 Amount for the work is Minmum and Maximum Rs: 469.99 Lakhs Tender documents may be downloaded from the e.procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka Viz. kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Tenders must be submitted through e-procurement portal on or before 16.00 hours up to dt: 11.11.2024 Tenders will be opened on dt: 12.11.2024 Further any other information can be seen from the e-procurement portal or can be had from the undersigned.

(Shivshankar Kamshetty)
Executive Engineer,
PWD Divn. Bidar.

Can Fin Homes Ltd
Sahakarnagar Branch
No.553, Therani Towers 1ST Floor, F- Block 60 Feet Rd, Above IOB Bank, Sahakarnagar - 562159. Ph:080-23636425,M-7625079141 e-mail:sahakaranagar@canfinhomes.com CIN: L85110KA1987PLC008699

CORRIGENDUM

Refereing to the Advertisement Sale Notice published in The Hindu dated 09.11.2024, pertaining to Account of **Mr. Jayaprakash R.** & Others.
In second para 3rd line instead of **physical possession** read as **constructive possession.**
All other contents of the notice remain same.

Sd/-
09.11.2024 **Authorised Officer**
Bengaluru Can Fin Homes Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that general public that my Client **Mr. SANDEEP J N S/o N. Narasimha Murthi,** (Aadhaar No. 7190 3536 0167) presently residing at No.S2, 2nd Floor, J.C.Ruby Apartment, no.404, Jayalakshmamma Layout, Paparedypalya, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru-560 072, have lost the mentioned below original documents in respect of schedule property 1) registered as Document No.26736/03-04, CD No:151 of Book-I, dated: 01.12.2003 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Peenya, Bangalore. AND registered as Document No.NGB-1-02543/2011-12, CD No:NGBD103 of Book-I, dated:07.07.2011 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Nagarabhavi, Bangalore, lodged a complaint in this regard before Police Department, Bangalore on 21.10.2024, E-Lost Report No. 1295808/2024, in spite of the best efforts same could not be traced.

Therefore it is requested that the general public who ever may find the said original DOCUMENTS to hand over the same to the undersigned immediately to my client within **7 days** from the date of publication of this Notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing **No.79,** SEVENTY NINE, Katha No.83/2, Srigandadakavalu Village, carved out of Sy No.83/2, Old Katha No.34, Presently coming under the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, KOTTIGEPALYA, WARD NO.73, situated at **No.79, Srigandadakavalu Village, Near Vidyanikethan School, Srinivasanagara, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** and measuring East to West 30-0 feet and North to South 45-0 feet, in totally measuring **1350 Square Feets** of vacant site and together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the:-

East by :: Site No.80, West by :: Other's Property
North by :: Site No.78, South by :: Road

SHIVAPRAKASH KN B.A., LL.B.
Advocate,
SRS LAW ASSOCIATES,
No.548, 7th Main Road, Vijayanagar,
Bangalore - 560 040. Mobile: 9341824536
Place : Bangalore Date : 10-11-2024

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮದ್ದೂರು-571428
Email: ka.maddur.tmc@gmail.com
website: www.maddurtown.mrc.gov.in
ದೂ : 08232-298155/298166
ನಂ: ಪುಸಮ/ಪ.ಅ/ಘವನಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್-36/2024-25 ದಿ:07-11-2024

ಇ-ಪ್ರೆಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಮದ್ದೂರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಪುರಸಭಾ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಆಸಕ್ತಯುಳ್ಳ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ : 01. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು : ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಡಿಪಿಆರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವಂತಹ ಡ್ರೈವರ್ಸ್ ಹೆಲ್ಪರ್ಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಆಪರೇಟರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು 2024-25 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದಡಿ ನಿಯೋಜಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್. ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : 80.20. ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ : ರೂ.1,60,400/-. ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : DMA/2024-25/SE3991

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ : 02. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು : ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಡಿಪಿಆರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವಂತಹ ಸಾರ್ಟರ್, ವಾಚ್‌ಮ್ಯಾನ್, ಮತ್ತು ಸೂಪರ್‌ವೈಸರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು 2024-25 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದಡಿ ನಿಯೋಜಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್.ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : 20.55. ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ : ರೂ.41,400/-. ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : DMA/2024-25/SE4022

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ಸಹಿ/-ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಪುರಸಭೆ-ಮದ್ದೂರು

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From Page One

Team India will not play in Pak., BCCI tells ICC

"We have been showing good gestures for the last few years and no one should expect us to do it all the time," Mr. Naqvi said, speaking to journalists at Lahore's Gaddafi stadium. The Shahbaz Sharif government would take the final decision on how to proceed if such a proposal was given, he added.

The Ministry of External Affairs had denied that Mr. Jaishankar had any "conversation" about resuming cricketing ties in Pakistan when he met Mr. Naqvi at a dinner during his visit to Islamabad for the SCO Heads of Government Meeting on October 15-16. However, at least two officials confirmed that the PCB had presented Pakistan's case for India to travel with the Indian delegation there. According to the sources, Pakistan was prepared to let the Indian team spend only as much time in Pakistan as was required for the matches or practice, and would facilitate the team's return to India by air or by road over the border to Amritsar.

"This would mean that any time, they could return to India within 20 minutes," an official said, referring to the drive from Lahore to the Wagah-Attari border. The officials said Pakistan expected "reciprocity" from India, as it sent its team to play in the ICC World Cup in 2023, and will be expected to send its team for the Asia Cup being hosted by India in 2025.

Ahead of COP-29, India to emphasise Paris deal

The targets had been slashing global emissions by 45% by 2030 and keeping temperature rise below 2°C of pre-industrial levels. Since 2022, there have been multiple meetings to converge upon a new target called the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance – both in terms of the expected quantity as well as the year of delivery – by 2025, which means it ideally ought to be firmed up by in the COP this month.

"We are flexible and open to different kinds of finance. They need not only be grants but also concessional loans via multi-lateral banks or investments in technology. Things can be discussed but if it's business-as-usual (with short term profit motive) dressed up as climate finance or attempts to draw in countries that are outside the scope of the Paris Agreement, I doubt much progress can be made," a highly placed official, closely involved in India's negotiations, told *The Hindu*, on condition of anonymity.

Gunmen kill another woman in Manipur

The incident followed the killing of a 31-year-old Hmar tribal woman by an armed group in the Jiribam district adjoining Assam on Thursday evening.

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum, a Kuki-Zo organisation, said Meitei extremists were behind the attack and said the woman, Zosangkim Hmar, was shot, captured, and burned to death.

The ethnic violence in Manipur, which broke out on May 3, 2023, between the non-tribal Meiteis and the Kuki-Zo tribals, has so far claimed the lives of more than 250 people. Some 60,000 others were also displaced.

'Ransomware attack hit crucial defence unit'

"Notably, intelligence from the FBI led to the unveiling of a scam involving $2 million in cryptocurrencies linked to a fake tech support call centre defrauding U.S. citizens," the report said.

Despite the fraught diplomatic relations with Canada over the past year, the CBI in collaboration with the RCMP identified a Delhi-based call centre that scammed Canadian citizens, resulting in the recovery of a significant amount of cash and evidence. "Additionally, CBI traced bitcoins from an Australian citizen to a wallet in Delhi, exposing the international scope of crypto frauds in a case of Australian tax fraud. In India, a large-scale crypto mining scam was uncovered, deceitfully extracting ₹100 crore from Indian citizens," the report said.

Highlighting the "broad spectrum of cyber threats facing the nation," the report said that the CBI investigated investment and loan app frauds perpetrated on Indian citizens from neighbouring countries. "Acting at the instance of RBI [Reserve Bank of India], CBI registered a case of IMPS (Immediate payment service) fraud at UCO Bank involving reversed transactions across multiple banks, amounting to a staggering ₹820 crore," the report said.

The CBI has been the Union government's designated nodal agency to investigate computer crimes since 1999. On September 29, however, the Cabinet Secretariat amended the government's Allocation of Business Rules to designate the National Security Council Secretariat, which reports to National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, as the agency "to provide overall coordination and strategic direction for Cyber Security".

The order also designated the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology as the nodal body for the "security of telecom networks", and the Ministry of Home Affairs for cyber crimes.

Children of infiltrator men won't get tribal rights: BJP

BJP chief J.P. Nadda says Soren government has given shelter to Bangladeshi infiltrators in Jharkhand for the sake of votes; a BJP government will ensure that all of them are thrown out

The Hindu Bureau
RANCHI

Campaign stop: BJP president J.P. Nadda being garlanded by party leaders during a public meeting in Bishrampur on Saturday ahead of the Jharkhand Assembly election. ANI

If voted to power in Jharkhand, the BJP will not grant tribal rights to children "infiltrator" men had by local Adiviasi women, BJP president J.P. Nadda said at an election rally in Bishrampur of Jharkhand on Saturday.

"The government of the Congress, Rashtriya Janata Dal, and Jharkhand Mukti Morcha has given shelter to Bangladeshi infiltrators in Jharkhand for the sake of votes. We have decided that as soon as the BJP government is formed in the State, every single infiltrator will be thrown out," the Union Minister said.

He said the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance would root out the Naxalism that he alleged had flourished during the Hemant Soren regime.

In another campaign event, Union Home Minister Amit Shah accused the Congress of seeking reservations for Muslims in violation of the Constitution, and slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for allegedly displaying a "fake" copy of the Constitution.

Mr. Shah addressed rallies in the Assembly constituencies of Chattarpur, Hazaribagh and Potka and a roadshow in Jamshedpur West.

"Congress and Rahul Gandhi talk about the Constitution, but they are the ones who are insulting the Constitution. The Constitution that Rahul Gandhi always carries with him is just a blank paper. Rahul Gandhi has insulted Baba Saheb Ambedkar," he alleged.

Quotas for Muslims

Mr. Shah accused the Congress of seeking quotas for Muslims to boost the party's vote bank, though the Constitution did not allow reservation on the basis of religion.

"Some Ulema group in Maharashtra gave a memorandum to the Congress that Muslims should be given 10% reservation and the State president of the Congress said that he will help in this. The Congress wants to cut the reservation of Backward Classes, Dalits and tribal people and give it to Muslims," he alleged.

Mr. Shah said that as long as the BJP was in power, it would not allow the reservation of Dalits and backward classes to be touched.

He accused the Congress and its allies in the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-led government of failing to help the poor, alleging that Chief Minister Hemant Soren had not fulfilled a pre-poll promise to give and unemployment allowance for the youth.

Mr. Nadda said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had special love for Jharkhand because he has launched every major scheme from the State: the Ayushman Bharat Yojana from Ranchi, Mudra Yojana from Dumka, and Janman Yojana from Khunti, the village of Lord Birsa Munda.

He accused the INDIA bloc of not keeping its poll promises. "There is only one way the INDIA bloc works. In Telangana, they said they would provide free electricity, but the power went off. In Himachal, they said that unemployment allowance will be given to unemployed youth, they will provide jobs and corruption will be ended. But these days there is an investigation going on into 'who ate the samosa'," he said.

The BJP chief addressed another rally in Ramgarh, followed by an interaction with doctors in Ranchi.

Congress cannot tolerate OBC Prime Minister: PM Modi

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Narendra Modi

Accusing the Congress of dividing Other Backward Class (OBC) communities to take away their reservations, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday alleged that the Opposition party could not "tolerate" a Prime Minister from the community.

"The Congress stand is clear: the moment OBCs weaken, they become stronger," Mr. Modi said, addressing a rally at Akola as part of the campaign for Maharashtra's upcoming Assembly election. He said that when OBCs became powerful, the Congress could not come to power with a full majority.

"In Nanded, the Congress provoked a fight between Vani and Mali, Sutar and Sonar, Nihari and Nirali, Teli and Paanchar. Remember, if you are divided, the Congress will take away your reservations; from Jawaharlal Nehru to Rajiv Gandhi, everyone tried to do this. They cannot tolerate an OBC Prime Minister," he added, while addressing another public meeting at Nanded.

Mr. Modi attacked the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) which has allied with the Congress. "Marathi *Manoos* will not let the Congress win, as they are running the agenda of Pakistan in India. These people are playing with the legacy of Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray. Maharashtra's people will definitely teach them a lesson," he said.

This is his second day and fourth meeting after campaigning in Dhule and Nashik districts. In total, Mr. Modi is to address at least nine meetings across the State.

This is considered a BJP effort not to repeat the Lok Sabha election mistakes. Nanded district is the stronghold of BJP leader and former Chief Minister Ashok Chavan. Mr. Chavan had failed to use his popularity to bring victory for the BJP candidate in Nanded during the Lok Sabha polls. This time, his daughter Sreejaya Chavan has been fielded from the Bhokar Assembly constituency under the Nanded Lok Sabha constituency.

The Prime Minister blamed the Congress and called it the root cause for all the issues that farmers in Maharashtra face.

Railway staffer crushed to death during shunting

Press Trust of India
BEGUSARAI

A Railway employee was killed after he was caught between the buffers of a train engine and a coach during a shunting operation at Barauni Junction station in Bihar's Begusarai district on Saturday, officials said.

An official of the East Central Railway said the guidelines for such an operation must have been violated leading to this "unfortunate incident" and an inquiry had been ordered.

The deceased was identified as Amar Kumar (25), a resident of Samastipur district.

Kumar's family alleged that he died because of negligence of the Railway staff.

Rahul attacks Modi over GST, says it is a weapon to kill the poor, farmers

The Hindu Bureau
RANCHI

Making a point: Rahul Gandhi addresses a public meeting ahead of the Jharkhand Assembly elections in Jamshedpur on Saturday. PTI

On the second day of his campaign for the Jharkhand Assembly election, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday accused the Narendra Modi government at the Centre of favouring capitalists over the poor of the country.

Vowing to scrap the 50% cap on reservation, Mr. Gandhi promised 28% reservation to tribal people, 12% to Dalits and 27% to Backward Classes in the State as laid out in the manifesto of the INDIA bloc. He said a nationwide caste census would be conducted during the tenure of the current Parliament.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha addressed two rallies on the day, first in Baghmara and second in Jamshedpur, in support of INDIA bloc candidates.

'Youth unhappy'

Raising questions on the GST regime, he said, "The youth and women in India are unhappy. Modi*ji* only gives big speeches but does nothing. When inflation increases in the country, our mothers and sisters suffer the most. Narendra Modi has levied GST on everything. He wants to take money from the pockets of poor people and farmers and give it to the rich."

He asked a Sikh man in the crowd, referring to him as *Sardarji*, how much his shirt cost. When the man replied ₹500, Mr. Gandhi said 18% of the amount was the GST he paid. "If Adani purchases the same ₹500 shirt, he will also pay 18% GST, which is totally wrong. What is the income of this common man and the income of Adani? GST and demonetisation is a weapon to kill the poor, farmers and labour class," he said. The Congress MP said Mr. Modi did not waive off the loans of the poor but waived off the loans of capitalists.

"Once I saw Narendra Modi hesitantly meeting poor children standing behind the [barricade] wire. The Prime Minister of India does not go to the houses of the poor, farmers, Dalits, backward and tribal people. He never went to any poor person's wedding but he went to the Ambanis' wedding. This shows that they are not for you," Mr. Gandhi said.

'Pakistan must desist from rhetoric and falsehood'

Press Trust of India
UNITED NATIONS

In a strong retort, India slammed Pakistan for peddling "falsehood" after it referred to Jammu and Kashmir during a debate on peacekeeping operations in the UN.

"India chooses its right to reply in response to the comments made by Pakistan that has yet again made an attempt to divert this august body from its agenda," Rajya Sabha member and BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi said. His remarks came during a debate on peacekeeping operations at the Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth Committee) of the UN General Assembly here on Friday.

Mr. Trivedi asserted that the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir "was, is and will remain an integral part of India." "The people of Jammu and Kashmir have recently exercised their democratic and electoral rights and elected a new government.

Pakistan must desist from such rhetoric and falsehood because it will not alter the facts," Mr. Trivedi said.

He added that out of respect for the august members of the UN forum, India will refrain from responding to any further attempts by Pakistan to "abuse" the UN procedures.

Mr. Trivedi delivered India's strong response after the Pakistani delegate spoke about the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), mandated to supervise the ceasefire along the Line of Control.

India maintains that UNMOGIP has outlived its utility and is irrelevant after the Simla Agreement and the consequent establishment of the Line of Control.

Maharashtra polls: Cong. asks PM four questions

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Jairam Ramesh, Congress general secretary in charge of communications, on Saturday posed four questions to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who held rallies in Nanded and Akola in Maharashtra on Saturday.

"Where does the BJP stand on caste census and raising the cap of 50% on reservations for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and OBCs imposed by the Supreme Court? Will the PM deliver on his promise to put Ashok Chavan in jail?" he asked. He also raised the issue of water scarcity in Marathwada.

Cong. deploys two CMs, Deputy CM to showcase its poll promise delivery

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A. Revanth Reddy, D.K. Shivakumar and Sukvinder Singh Sukhu address a press conference in Mumbai on Saturday. ANI

The Congress lined up two of its Chief Ministers and a Deputy Chief Minister in the Maharashtra capital on Saturday to refute the BJP's charge that the party does not follow through on its poll promises.

At a press conference, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, his Himachal Pradesh counterpart Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said Congress-ruled States were performing better and their governments had kept all their promises. Listing out the implementation of their party's guarantees in their respective States, they said every Congress-ruled government in the country had implemented the schemes and projects the party promised.

"I have come here to invite Mahayuti leaders from all the three parties to visit Karnataka and see what we have promised, delivered, and how people of Karnataka have benefited. [Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha] Rahul Gandhi walked the streets of this country and saw the issues people were suffering from, including price rise of every commodity. We are not looking at votes but development of the State," Mr. Shivakumar said.

Mr. Sukhu spoke of his government's decision to restore the Old Pension Scheme and its positive impact. "Any person who was getting ₹5,000 per month under the National Pension System now gets ₹50,000 under the Old Pension Scheme. Our government successfully countered 'Operation Lotus' of the BJP," he said, alluding to the alleged attempts of the BJP to poach its MLAs and unseat the Congress government in Himachal Pradesh. "People of Maharashtra have to decide whether toppling a government using money is democracy," he said.

ELECTIONS 2024

Trinamool submits two memoranda

A delegation of Trinamool Congress leaders submitted two memoranda to the Election Commission (EC) accusing BJP State chief Sukanta Majumdar of "insulting the state emblem of India and the police", and on the issue of deployment of Central forces for the bypolls.

"Trinamool representatives came without a prior appointment and their memorandum was received as per procedure at the receipt and dispatch section Saturday," an EC source said. Trinamool leaders said they were disappointed by the EC's conduct. "We are the third largest party in Parliament with the leaders of both Houses. Still, they do not have the time to meet us. It shows that they are puppets of the Centre," Trinamool leader Kirti Azad said. PTI

Trinamool leaders coming out after presenting memoranda to the EC in New Delhi. PTI

Shiv Sena (UBT) not turning into Cong.: Uddhav

The Shiv Sena did not lose its identity even after an alliance of three decades with the BJP and there was no question of it turning into the Congress now, former Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray said on Saturday.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit Shah come here and tell people that we [Shiv Sena (UBT)] abandoned Balasaheb Thackeray's ideology. I did not leave the ideology, I left the BJP. The BJP is not Bal Thackeray's thoughts," he said. "The Shiv Sena did not become BJP despite being with them for 25-30 years. How can it become Congress?" Mr. Thackeray added.

On the BJP's slogan *'ek hai to safe hai'*, he said, "We are already united, we will wipe out the BJP by staying together." PTI

> BJP squeezed Jharkhand like a lemon in the last 20 years... It is a paradox that Jharkhand, rich in mineral resources, is one of the poorest States
>
> **HEMANT SOREN**
> Jharkhand Chief Minister

Kejriwal seeks votes for Ishank in Chabbewal

Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday urged voters in Chabbewal in Punjab, to vote for party candidate Ishank Chabbewal in the upcoming bypoll and promised them in return "everything" they need for the development of the constituency. PTI

> Centre allowed the import of agro products, harming Maharashtra's soya bean producers. Such policies highlight the govt.'s disregard for farmers
>
> **SHARAD PAWAR**
> NCP(SP) chief

Campaign push: Ajoy Kumar of the Congress is pitted against the BJP's Purnima Das Sahu. AMIT BHELARI

Ajoy Kumar's pledge to Jamshedpur East voters

Amit Bhelari
JAMSHEDPUR

The Karnataka-born Ajoy Kumar, who is known as an encounter specialist and was the Superintendent of Police of Jamshedpur, starts his day early in the morning by meeting people and supporters at his residence.

Mr. Kumar is the Congress candidate for Jamshedpur East, pitted against Purnima Das Sahu of the BJP, daughter-in-law of Raghubar Das, former Chief Minister, currently serving as Governor of Odisha.

As the first phase of polling is just four days away, Mr. Kumar has intensified his campaign and left no stone unturned to ensure that he personally meets as many people as possible.

"Just give me one chance and it will make this city a better place. You all have seen me, what I did while serving as the SP of Jamshedpur," he said.

Mr. Kumar earlier served as Jharkhand Congress president but started his political innings with Babulal Marandi's party, Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (JVM), which later merged with the BJP.

Mr. Kumar reached Parliament by contesting the 2011 Lok Sabha election from Jamshedpur on a JVM ticket. Later he joined the Congress. However, in 2014, he lost as a Congress candidate in the Modi wave.

The most popular slogan which is echoing in the air of Jamshedpur East is "*Jo Kiya Tha Khaki Mein, Ab Karenge Khadi Mein*" (What I did in the police uniform, will do in Kurta).

Various promises

Among the promises he is making are better education, better roads, better electricity, solving the problem of drinking water, and giving the ownership of land to people through patta (legal document of land).

"No one will be left out, Jamshedpur East will now develop,"Mr. Kumar said.

Asked about why people should vote for him, Mr. Kumar told *The Hindu*, "I will protect the interest of all sections. I will be accessible. There are a lot of contract labour who cannot afford the fee of private schools, so we need a model government school. I have been working for the people for the past 10 years without any political post. It is my town, I have worked here and I have a home as well."

CARTOONSCAPE | SOUMYADIP SINHA

'Our secularism isn't compromised'

The Nationalist Congress Party and allies in Mahayuti may have different ideologies but together run an efficient government, says Maharashtra's Deputy Chief Minister and NCP president; he says that any mistakes during the Lok Sabha election have been rectified and he is confident of victory

INTERVIEW

Ajit Pawar

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
PUNE

Fighting the toughest battle of his political career, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) president Ajit Pawar will field candidates for 56 of the 288 seats in the Maharashtra Assembly election. Pitted against his uncle and NCP(SP) president Sharad Pawar (whose party contests on 87 seats), the fight on the home turf of Baramati and in other constituencies, will decide whom the people of Maharashtra trust. In an interview at his bungalow in Pune, the leader, known to never mince his words, says that he wants the people of Maharashtra to trust him and to give him a chance on the basis of his work experience as a good administrator. Excerpts:

This is an unprecedented election for Maharashtra. How is the battle for you and for your party?

This election is very important for us because we have to show to the people the work we have done as a government of three parties. We will be tested in this election. Everything is at stake for us. But so it is for the Opposition. Nobody can deny that. But we have rectified the mistakes we did during the Lok Sabha election. The onion export ban had hit us hard then. We have lifted that ban. Onion farmers are getting a good rate now. The monsoon has been good. The farmers are happy. We have given aid to the farmers, helped them get electricity.

We are working on the solar power project to give them electricity in the day. We have already deposited ₹7,500 in each woman's account under the Ladki Bahin Yojana.

All three of you have been speaking about the Ladki Bahin Yojana.

This is the scheme because of which women are happy. They feel empowered economically. They did not have any money for themselves. They had to depend on their family members. So the scheme has definitely benefited them.

This is the first time that the NCP faces the NCP. How formidable is the challenge of Sharad Pawar, particularly on the background of their Lok Sabha performance where they won eight of the 10 seats?

EMMANUAL YOGINI

I have never underestimated the challenge of my Opposition. The candidate has to be given his due respect (his nephew Yugendra Pawar contests against him on the home turf of Baramati). The voter has to be given respect. I have a strong grip over administration. I have proven for so many years how I work with transparency, how my financial planning and discipline is good. Maharashtra knows it. Pune knows it. I appeal to Maharashtra at this juncture, please give me an opportunity. I will prove worthy.

How many seats do you think your party will get?

I am not an oracle to answer that question. But I can only say that what happened in Lok Sabha will not happen in the State Assembly election.

How many seats will Mahayuti get?

It will definitely get over 175 seats.

Recently, your senior colleague Dilip Walse Patil said that in case there is no clear majority, different political combinations will have to be explored. What do you think? In that condition, will you go back to Sharad Pawar?

He thinks that way. But I am sure about my opinion. And I think that such a situation will not arise. We will see the inclination of the State when the counting begins on November 23. We will have called our legislature party meeting of the Mahayuti then.

Do you regret leaving Sharad Pawar? Is there any possibility of reconciliation?

I did not leave him. All the party MLAs took the decision and wrote a letter to Sharad Pawar and he gave his permission. The letter is still there in his record. This is not just about me. I do not want to say anything further. I don't want to create new problems.

There were recent reports in the media that you have left your stake on the Chief Minister's position. What is the truth?

Our target is to get 175 seats. If I make any statement about this, there is restlessness in the alliance partners.

On allegations that you have compromised on secularism, particularly after Yogi Aadityanath's comments on '*Batoge to katoge*', how do you justify the alliance?

We believe in the Shiv-Shahu-Phule-Ambedkar ideology. In the past year and a half, even the BJP has had to adjust. We have brought schemes for the minorities. We have different ideologies, but we run the government together. Now, one CM from another State gives such a statement. Maharashtra doesn't give response to these things. When you ask about secularism, I feel this about everyone, not just about us. Mamata Banerjee was a part of the Vajpayee government, and yet she is secular.

Nitish Kumar was a part of the BJP, then dumped them and went to Lalu Prasad, then dumped him and came back. Similar is the story about Chandrababu Naidu. And yet, they are all secular.

Ours is the same way. We haven't yet left our ideology.

Did you speak with Sharad Pawar then about your name in the irrigation scam? What did he say? You still sound hurt about it.

I am human. I feel hurt that I was defamed in an alleged ₹70,000 scam. R.R. Patil is no more. Else I would have asked him why he signed an open inquiry against me. But the total expenditure of the Water Resources Department since the formation of Maharashtra was ₹42,000 crore. How can there be a scam of ₹70,000 crore? I had spoken with Sharad Pawar *sahab*.

A White Paper was brought out in the matter thereafter, which said there was an irregularity, and not corruption.

(Full interview is at newsth.live/ajitpawar)

In battleground Seraikella in Jharkhand, turncoats, hurt sentiments, and a cry for jobs

Abhinay Lakshman
DUDHI/PATHANMARA/ SERAIKELLA

In the quaint village of Dudhi, on the outskirts of Seraikella town, 28-year-old Bhagirathi Mahto sits by the irrigation canal that has been running dry for years now. A Class 12 pass, Mr. Mahto says he has been waiting for government job vacancies but to no avail.

"In 2019, I was roaming around the area campaigning for Champai Soren. But this time both major candidates have made such spectacular switches that maybe the villagers will also surprise everyone," he tells *The Hindu*.

As southern Jharkhand prepares to vote in the first phase of the Assembly election, one of the most-watched battlegrounds has emerged in Seraikella, a seat Mr. Soren has turned into his stronghold over the past two decades and from where he became instrumental in shaping the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha's politics as a protege of party founder Shibu Soren.

In these polls, however, Mr. Soren is fighting on BJP ticket after being removed from the Chief Minister's post "insultingly", as he has complained.

His main opponent is Ganesh Mahali, a long-time BJP politician, whom Mr. Soren defeated in the 2014 and 2019 Assembly elections. This time though, Mr. Mahali is contesting as a JMM member.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former Jharkhand CM and BJP candidate from the Seraikella Assembly constituency Champai Soren at an election meeting. ANI

"We have been hearing a lot about youth getting jobs under contractors close to Ganesh*ji* at least. These are not government jobs but still it is something," said Mr. Mahto, who now works in his family's paddy fields owing to lack of work. "Champai, on the other hand, has been good, but we cannot see anything that he has brought to our village. The people he has helped, he has done so with cash whenever they needed but that is not the same as giving people jobs."

Dudhi village mostly has Adivasi families which is categorised as Other Backward Class (OBC) in Jharkhand. Apart from this, the village is dotted with half-a-dozen upper caste households, roughly representing the demography of the Scheduled Tribe majority constituency of Seraikella, which is voting on November 13.

Mr. Mahto's enthusiasm for Mr. Mahali's efforts to provide jobs resonated in Seraikella town as well, which has a significantly higher population of general category households. "Champai is well-regarded sure. But what has he really done for the area apart from helping people in personal difficulties," asked Gopal Mandal, 40, who has been cooking at an eatery in the town centre all his life.

Champai's pitch

Across Seraikella, Mr. Soren has been campaigning on the back of decisions he had taken as CM for five months – jumpstarting job recruitments, and bringing tribal language education in primary schools. He has also been speaking of the "insult" to him and by extension to the Adivasi people, referring to his removal as CM. On the other hand, Mr. Mahali is focusing on appealing to the youth with jobs, advertising the JMM-led government's efforts to start recruitment in the past five years.

In Dudhi, 30-year-old Palwant Soren said: "The principal problem here has been water for the past few years. The irrigation canal was built about five-six years ago but there is no water, the soil is going from bad to worse every year." Seraikella sits on the edge of the industrial hub of Jamshedpur.

"Our families here have always relied on Champai*ji*. But this time, all we hear is confusion in every household. We are yet to have a community meeting to decide what to do," Mr. Palwant said.

The confusion Mr. Palwant is speaking of in Adivasi households residing in Dudhi is mirrored in Mangudih of Pathanmara gram panchayat, about 30 km south, which is a Ho-dominated village.

"I remember the day Champai left us and went to BJP. There was confusion in all 17 villages of Pathanmara about why he would do this. The confusion persists," 28-year-old Sunita Honhaga of Mangudih said, adding, "It is very difficult for us now."

M.P. Speaker campaigning: Cong. writes to State EC

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

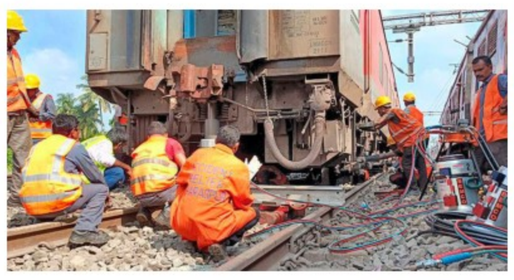
The Madhya Pradesh Congress has approached the State Election Commission (SEC) against Assembly Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar, accusing him of violating the Model Code of Conduct by campaigning for a BJP candidate.

"Vidhan Sabha Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar is actively campaigning in favour of BJP in Vijaypura, addressing public meetings, openly seeking votes in favour of BJP candidate Forest Minister Shri Ramniwas Rawat. The BJP office is also issuing photos and press notes with Narendra Singh Tomar campaigning," the letter by J.P. Dhanopia, the State Congress's Election Commission in-charge, read.

The Congress asked the Election Commission to prohibit Mr. Tomar from campaigning or clarify if a person holding a constitutional office can campaign for a political party.

Meanwhile, the Congress on Friday also complained to the SEC accusing many booth-level officers were not distributing the voter slips in tribal-dominated areas and conspiring to stop the tribals from casting their votes.

INBRIEF



Three coaches of train derail near Howrah, no casualties

Three coaches of the Secunderabad-Shalimar weekly express derailed near the Nalpur station in Kharagpur division of West Bengal early on Saturday. No casualties or injuries were reported. The Shalimar-bound train was packed with passengers. The derailment occurred around 5.30 a.m., according to South Eastern Railway officials. One parcel van and two passenger coaches went of the track around 40 km from Howrah, one of the largest railway junctions in eastern India. The Railways has issued emergency helplines for information on passengers: Kharagpur help desk number: Railway 63764, P&T 032229-3764.

'Demonising Constitutional institutions pastime for some'

Demonising Constitutional institutions and sermonising people is fast becoming a "pastime", Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Saturday and cautioned that such actions are a recipe for chaos. He also said even those who "constitutionally matter in the political arena" are "sermonising all and demonising our Constitutional institutions". Addressing an event of an educational institution in New Delhi, he said it is time to "bid adieu to this". "Also, I say with utmost restraint – time for our elites to be elites. To them, I appeal – to be a worthy elite, you have to be spurred by the fervour of nationalism," he said, without naming anyone. PTI

3 workers killed in fire at a godown in Gujarat's Navsari

Three workers were charred to death and three injured in a fire caused by a chemical leak at a godown in Navsari district of Gujarat on Saturday, the police said. The blaze broke out around 9 a.m. when workers were unloading barrels containing chemicals from a truck at a godown in Devsar village of Billimoria taluka, Deputy Superintendent of Police B.V. Gohil said. "Three workers died and three sustained injuries and were shifted to a hospital," he said. Mr. Gohil said five fire tenders were pressed into service from nearby talukas, and the blaze was brought under control. The cooling operation is under way at the godown, the official added. PTI

Not all Sikhs in Canada are Khalistan followers: Trudeau

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has acknowledged the presence of Khalistan supporters in Canada but said they do not represent the Sikh community as a whole. His comments came during Deepavali celebrations at Ottawa's Parliament Hill recently amid an ongoing diplomatic row with India over the killing of Khalistan extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. "There are many supporters of Khalistan in Canada, but they do not represent the Sikh Community as a whole. Similarly, there are supporters of Prime Minister [Narendra] Modi's government in Canada, but they do not represent all Hindu Canadians," Mr. Trudeau said. PTI

SUDOKU

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	2	5	8	1	7	4	3
1	5	8	3	7	4	6	2	9
3	4	7	9	6	2	8	5	1
8	6	9	4	1	5	2	3	7
2	7	5	8	9	3	4	1	6
4	1	3	7	2	6	5	9	8
5	3	1	6	4	8	9	7	2
7	2	6	1	5	9	3	8	4
9	8	4	2	3	7	1	6	5

Accessibility for disabled persons is a fundamental right, rules top court

The court asks the government to enable the creation of public and private spaces, services and products of an 'universal design' which could be accessed by everyone; inclusion should be integrated into the design process from the start, it says

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has confirmed that disabled persons' right to access environments, services and opportunities is an essential human and fundamental right which has hardly been realised on the ground.

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, in a judgment on November 8, quoted that disability was a tragedy only if society failed to provide people with disabilities things essential to lead their lives.

The court recorded that while Delhi had 3,775 low-floor wheelchair-accessible CNG buses for public transport, Tamil Nadu had only 1,917 such buses. In Mumbai, while newer facilities such as the Andheri Metro Station met accessibility standards, older buildings such as the Bombay Art Gallery did not offer even basic features such as accessible restrooms for persons with disabilities.

> Emotional needs, such as privacy and self-pleasure, are often overlooked, leaving disabled individuals, without private spaces to express these needs
>
> **D.Y. CHANDRACHUD**
> Chief Justice of India

Overlooked needs

The Supreme Court said society did not even bother to enquire into the "right to relationships" of persons with disabilities.

"The emotional and relational challenges faced by PwDs [people with disabilities], particularly regarding access to love, desire, and intimacy... Emotional needs, such as privacy and self-pleasure, are often overlooked, leaving disabled individuals, especially those living with families, without private spaces to express these needs," Chief Justice Chandrachud said.

The judgment is based on a report submitted by the Centre for Disability Studies, NALSAR University of Law.

The study assessed the situation on the ground and had recommended steps to ensure compliance with accessibility standards for people with disabilities.

The court found that aspects of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules prescribing accessibility standards were not even mandatory by nature, leading to their "dismal" compliance at the ground level.

The judgment directed the government to issue fresh Rules with mandatory standards for accessibility within three months.

'Essential prerequisite'

"Accessibility is not merely a convenience, but a fundamental requirement for enabling individuals, particularly those with disabilities, to exercise their rights fully and equally... Accessibility is an integral part of life equality, freedom, and human dignity... Accessibility was not a standalone right. It is an essential prerequisite for PwDs to exercise other rights meaningfully," Chief Justice Chandrachud underscored.

The court said disability is not inherent in the person, but is created by external factors such as physical, organisational, and attitudinal barriers. It drew the government's attention to the "social model of disability" concept, which holds that the focus must be on removing societal barriers rather than "fixing" individuals.

The court asked the government to enable the creation of public and private spaces, services and products of an "universal design" which could be accessed by everyone, regardless of their ability, age, or status. "Inclusion should be integrated into the design process from the very beginning, rather than as an afterthought... When introducing any new service, product, or feature - whether physical or functional - accessibility must be considered at the inception stage. It is far more efficient to integrate accessibility from the start than to make adjustments later," Chief Justice Chandrachud pointed out.

4.3 lakh govt. officials brush up skills with online courses

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Around 4.3 lakh government officials participated in the Karmayogi Saptah, or National Learning Week, and took online courses centred on citizen-centric governance, digital fluency, and Indic Knowledge System, a government statement said.

The skill development initiative was organised from October 19 to 29.

The prominent speakers included Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, who spoke on "Secrets of living a stress-free life", M.K. Sridhar. who spoke on the National Education Policy, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, who elaborated on "India public health towards Viksit Bharat", B.K. Shivani, Kris Gopalakrishnan, David Frawley, Raghava Krishna and Amritanshu Pandey.

Through lively discussions of the Karmayogi Saptah, participants gained new insights and tools, preparing them for the future of governance in a rapidly evolving world.

Amid protests, Centre says procurement of paddy in Punjab going on smoothly

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre says 6.58 lakh farmers in the State have so far received the benefits of procurement at a cost of ₹27,995 crore. FILE PHOTO

Amid complaints and protests by farmers' organisations in Punjab that paddy procurement from the State has been delayed, the Centre said on Saturday that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and the State agencies had procured 120.67 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) from the State.

The Centre said so far 6.58 lakh farmers in the State had benefited from procurement at the minimum support price (MSP) at an estimated ₹27,995 crore.

"As such, paddy procurement is going on smoothly," the Union government said. "A total quantity of 126.67 LMT of paddy has arrived in the Punjab *mandis* as of November 8, 2024, out of which 120.67 LMT has been procured by State agencies and the FCI," the Food Ministry said in a statement. A' grade paddy is being purchased at the MSP at the rate of ₹2,320 a quintal and the total paddy purchased till date in the ongoing kharif marketing season amounts to ₹27,995 crore. "Further, 4,839 millers have applied for shelling of paddy and 4,743 millers have already been allotted work by the Punjab government," the Centre said.

Earlier, the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) had protested against the delay in paddy procurement.

The SKM had alleged that with the FCI delaying procurement of milled rice of last season, rice mills are unable to keep and process the fresh stock of paddy.

"...2,927 designated *mandis* and temporary yards are operational throughout the State for smooth procurement. The Central government has fixed an estimated target of 185 LMT for paddy procurement which shall continue up to November 30, 2024," the Centre said and added that the paddy procurement from the *mandis* is in full swing and the paddy being lifted is more than the quantity arriving daily.

Ratan Tata showed steadfast commitment to integrity, excellence and service: PM

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has described industry doyen Ratan Tata, who died a month ago, as the epitome of the finest traditions of Indian enterprise with a steadfast commitment to integrity, excellence and service.

Penning a tribute to the widely respected former Tata Group chairperson, Mr. Modi said his absence since his passing has been deeply felt not only in India but across the world.

Tata remains alive in the lives he touched and the dreams he nurtured, and generations will be grateful to him for making India a better, kinder and more hopeful place, the Prime Minister said in a tribute to Ratan Tata, which was posted on his website.

Those passionate about the environment and devoted to philanthropy are equally saddened, he said, citing Tata's investment in these fields, including in numerous start-ups.

Ratan Tata

For the youth, he was an inspiration, a reminder that dreams are worth pursuing and that success can coexist with compassion as well as humility.

For others, he represented the finest traditions of Indian enterprise and a steadfast commitment to the values of integrity, excellence and service, the Prime Minister said. He noted that under his leadership, the Tata Group ascended to new heights, embodying respect, honesty and credibility worldwide. One of Tata's most defining qualities was his unwavering support for the dreams of others, Mr. Modi said.

"He understood the hopes and aspirations of young entrepreneurs and recognised the potential they had to shape India's future. By backing their efforts, he empowered a generation of dreamers to take bold risks and push boundaries," Mr. Modi said.

Tata championed excellence, urging Indian enterprises to set global benchmarks. This vision, he hoped, will inspire the country's future leaders to make India synonymous with world-class quality.

Tata's support for the 'Swachh Bharat Mission' was particularly close to his heart, Mr. Modi said. "I still remember his heartfelt video message for the Swachh Bharat Mission's 10th anniversary at the start of October. It was among his final public appearances," he said.

IDF working on new guidelines to treat Type 2 diabetes

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

The International Diabetes Federation (IDF) is drawing up new guidelines for the treatment of Type 2 diabetes in consultation with a global expert panel. These guidelines are being evaluated, and will be launched in Bangkok in April during the World Congress, IDF president Peter Schwarz has said.

Professor Schwarz was in Chennai along with the chairperson of the guidelines committee, Antonio Ceriello, former head of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD), to give Indian diabetologists a sneak peek into the new set of guidelines.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, he said: "Forming such a guideline is always a big undertaking, because we need to put all the evidence – from science and clinical practice – together. What is unique about the International Diabetes Federation's guidelines is that it does not lose the science, but makes sure that the practice is applied on to the environment in specific countries. We are talking about putting not the drugs, but the patient in the middle of the care model."

Basic care

Professor Ceriello added: "In many countries in the world, these guidelines are used by healthcare systems to justify some choices in terms of reimbursement or in terms of what can be allowed, how to access care. This is why we we wanted to set the minimum, basic care, that reflects the basic right of anyone with diabetes for treatment; less than this is not acceptable." While there are multiple guidelines for diabetes in the world, he said most focus on the best available chances because they are coming from the United States or Europe. "But our idea is to give instruments to be used at [a] local level in order to get the best options for the treatment of diabetes."

IDF president Peter Schwarz; Antonio Ceriello, former head of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes, and V. Mohan, chairman of Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre. R. RAVINDRAN

The current or existing guidelines from the American Diabetes Association (ADA) or EASD may not be suitable for all countries, because of accessibility and affordability issues, explained V. Mohan, chairman, Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialties Centre, Chennai. The IDF, which is an organisation comprising over 240 associations of diabetologists across the world, looks at it from a slightly different perspective from the national associations for diabetology.

For instance, the ADA's recommendation that GLP-1 receptor agonists, including semaglutide, may be used as first-line treatment in certain cases "is questionable, for several reasons", Professor Ceriello said. "I can say that they are good drugs. But there are several problems. Firstly, the shortage of the drugs. In Australia, for example, people were forced to stop because the drug was not anymore available. When these drugs which aid weight loss are stopped, the patients regain weight. So, as part of the guidelines we do not say GLP-1 first, then insulin. We keep insulin as our first choice, and if needed and suitable, you can add GLP-1."

Factors to consider

Professor Schwarz chimed in: "I'm a strong supporter of calming down to look at the science and the impact. We would move the patient from a lifelong treatment with insulin, which is becoming cheaper and cheaper, to a lifelong treatment with an expensive drug. This has social and financial dimensions and there are side effects – all of which we have to consider." Dr. Mohan added that there is currently no long-term data on the side effects of the GLP-1 class of drugs, so it may not be advisable to use them as the first-line for everyone at this stage.

Professor Schwarz added that the IDF is also developing a global diabetes index. "Once a year we will ask 100,000 physicians and 100,000 patients in every country in the world about their perception of the quality of diabetes care, and it will be translated into a score of up to 100. Then, immediately, we can compare the quality of diabetes care in Kerala with Wisconsin in the United States. Countries can learn best practices from each other. For instance, he said, the chain of institutions Dr. Mohan runs would be a role model on how to conduct diabetes care in different areas with varying income groups, and it features as such in the new guidelines.

(Full panel discussion is at newsth.live/diabetes)

INBRIEF

Oil prices would have surged without Russian imports: Puri

Global oil prices "would have hit the roof" if big importer India had not bought oil from Russia following the Ukraine war, India's Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, adding prices would determine where the country buys oil from. New Delhi has repeatedly defended its purchases from Russia as necessary to keep prices in check in the developing country of 1.42 billion people. "Global oil prices would have hit the roof if India had not bought oil from Russia," he wrote on X. REUTERS

China's consumer prices rise at slowest pace in 4 months

China's consumer prices in October rose at the slowest pace in four months, official data showed, while producer price deflation deepened, even as Beijing doubled down on stimulus to prop up the sputtering economy. The 10 trillion yuan or $1.4 trillion package unveiled by the country on Friday to ease local government 'hidden debt' burdens, will likely do little to boost demand and prices in the near term, analysts believed. REUTERS

Aurobindo Pharma net profit rises 8.6% to ₹816.9 crore

Aurobindo Pharma's consolidated net profit for the July-September quarter rose increased 8.6% year-on-year to ₹816.9 crore. On a sequential basis, the net profit in this year's second quarter (Q2) was 11% lower than the ₹918.2 crore gains in Q1. Total revenues from operations rose 8% on a year-on-year basis to ₹7,796 crore, and were 3% over the Q1 number. While profitability saw a slight dip, underlying performance remains strong," its MD K. Nithyananda Reddy said.

'Domestic savers to offset foreign investor exodus'

Foreign portfolio investors may have rushed to the exit door in record numbers this October, but experts expect domestic investors and pension funds to offset their plays over the medium term

Lalatendu Mishra
Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

October's record pullback from Indian markets by foreign institutional and portfolio investors (FIIs and FPIs) may not deter inflows from domestic investors into Indian equity markets as they remain confident of the returns in the medium-term, according to market analysts.

Although Dalal Street may remain volatile in the short term thanks to FII exits, it will stabilise in the medium term, they said.

FIIs sold the most Indian equities in October, making it the worst month in the Indian equity markets for foreign investors, according to data from Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).

In October alone, FIIs sold a net ₹94,000 crore in equities, reversing the ₹57,000 crore inflows received firom them in the previous month.

"Ordinary investors should be prepared for more volatility in the near term. I advise caution, especially if FII outflows persist" said Trivesh D, chief operating officer of Tradejini, a Bengaluru-based zero-brokerage firm.

While FIIs are more opportunistic, looking for value wherever it can be found, domestic institutional investors (DIIs) exhibit confidence in the Indian markets, he added.

According to experts, the steady DII buying kept the market buoyant despite the FII outflows. "The structural nature of these investments, which include retirement assets, will not lead to DII selling in the medium term despite a short-term volatility," said Atul Parakh, CEO, Bigul, a Navi Mumbai-based brokerage firm.

DIIs are also looking at the current corrections as an opportunity to buy quality stocks at a cheaper price, Mr. Trivesh added.

Both domestic and foreign events have a bearing on the FII selling, said Mr. Trivesh. "Global factors are the stronger determinants of this FII sell-off. For instance, China's recent stimulus package – including a reduced reserve requirement, lower mortgage rates, and direct borrowing access for institutional investors from the People's Bank of China – has played a key role," he said.

The senior Tradejini executive also pointed to the rising U.S. bond yields that presented an attractive investment opportunity for FIIs, besides the China factor. Domestically, lukewarm earnings and high valuations have contributed to the selloff, but that is not as significant as the global factors, he added. Donald Trump's re-election as U.S. President has also introduced a degree of uncertainty to all markets.

A sector-wise analysis of FII flows also signals weakening trends. Seven of 24 sectors witnessed net FII selling in September, including construction materials, automobiles and auto components, consumer services, information technology, oil and gas and consumable fuels, and textiles. Stocks of firms into diversified investments, also saw net FII/FPI selling in September. The opposite trend was noted in the DII segment, with domestic investors being net buyers in the stock market. This suggests a divergence in sentiments of the two broad investor categories.

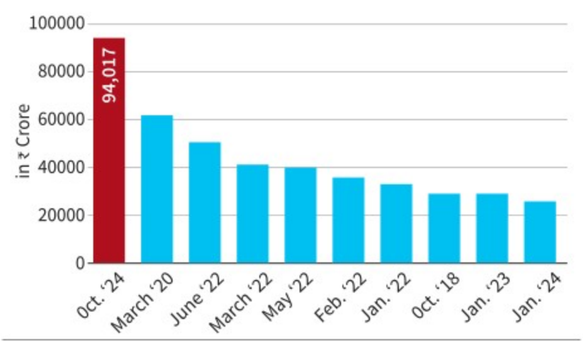
The DIIs bought a little more than ₹1 lakh crore of Indian equities in October, covering for the FII sales. DII sales too shows a nuanced trend where NRIs (Non-Resident Indians) and client investors were net sellers, but proprietary traders were the only net buyers.

Client investor category consists of high networth individuals (HNI) with liquid assets exceeding ₹5 crore, without taking their primary residence into account, and retail investors through portfolio managers. Proprietary traders include treasury operations of domestic financial institutions.

"The recent market activity shows significant divergence between FII and DII positions in October, driven by distinct factors" said Mr. Parakh. "The DII buying is predominantly led by mutual funds through flows from systematic investment plans averaging ₹15,000 crore a month, insurance firms, and pension funds like the EPFO and the National Pension System," he noted.

When FIIs left D-Street in Hordes

This October's peak exodus apart, these have been the other times when Indian bourses saw the highest stock sales by foreign investors



Source: Centre For Monitoring Indian Economy

'Medical device market to be $30 billion by 2030'

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

J. P. Nadda

Despite government assistance, medical device manufacturing in India faces several challenges, principally lack of infrastructure, said Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare J. P. Nadda while unveiling a Central scheme for boosting the sector at an outlay of ₹500 crore.

The move has been welcomed by the industry. "The comprehensive scheme targets critical areas of the medical device industry covering manufacturing of key components and accessories, skill development, support for clinical studies, development of common infrastructure, and industry promotion,"the Ministry said.

Calling it a game changer that will not only help the industry but will also help make India self-reliant, the Centre noted the industry is an essential pillar of healthcare delivery. From diagnostic machines to surgical instruments, medical devices are critical for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases. India's medical device market is valued at about $14 billion and is expected to grow to $30 billion by 2030, according to the Ministry.

'Significant milestone'

Welcoming the announcement, Himanshu Baid, MD, Poly Medicure said the scheme marks a significant milestone for India's medtech sector, fostering growth and export potential.

"Key initiatives such as the identification of common facilities for medical device clusters will encourage collaboration, innovation, and cost efficiency. Capacity building and skill development programmes are crucial to bridge talent gaps, ensuring high standards of manufacturing and clinical expertise," Mr. Baid noted.

Industry experts said the step will hasten sectoral growth, cut import reliance and enhance India's position as a leading exporter of medical devices.

"With ₹180 crore dedicated to the Marginal Investment Scheme, there is a significant push to develop a robust local supply chain, thereby lowering costs and spurring innovation," said Anish Bafna, CEO and MD, Healthium Medtech.

Additionally, ₹100 crore for clinical study support will help firms generate critical evidence for regulatory compliance, facilitating market expansion.

Truck rentals ease in Oct. post festivals

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Truck rentals, after staying firm during the pre-festive period, eased in October, according data released by Shriram Mobility Bulletin.

As per the bulletin, truck rentals on the Mumbai-Kolkata-Mumbai route saw a month-on-month (MoM) dip of 2.1% to ₹1,90,000 for a round trip of 18 tonne pay load, the Bengaluru-Mumbai-Bengaluru route saw dip of 1.6% to ₹1,25,000 for the same pay load and Delhi-Bengaluru-Delhi route dipped by 1.4% to ₹2,07,000.

However, rentals on most other key routes stayed almost unchanged as per the Bulletin.

The fleet utilisation levels have dropped to 80% due to the post-festival impact and cost pressures remained high for truckers.

During the festive season, demand for goods and transportation services typically increases, leading to a temporary spike in logistics activity. While the truck rental eased, the festive period provided a boost to vehicle sales.

Divi's Labs net profit surges 46% in Q2 to ₹510 crore

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Divi's Laboratories' consolidated net profit increased 46.5% to ₹510 crore for the second quarter ending September 30.

The higher net profit came on a 22% increase in revenue from operations to ₹2,338 crore. During the quarter, there was a forex gain of ₹29 crore, the active pharmaceutical ingredients, intermediates and nutraceutical ingredients maker said on Saturday.

For the first half of FY25, there was a 33.5% rise in consolidated net profit to ₹940 crore on an almost 21% higher revenue from operations at ₹4,456 crore.

FM tells RRBs to develop products for MSMEs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Nirmala Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman urged Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and sponsor banks to develop suitable products aligning with MSME clusters to further raise banking penetration and financial inclusion across the country.

She was speaking at a review meeting held in connection with National MSME cluster Outreach Programme here with chairpersons of RRBs and CEOs of sponsor banks.

The FM emphasised active outreach by the RRB branches located in MSME clusters to ensure credit to small and micro enterprises in areas such as textile, wooden furniture, leather, food processing, packing materials and engineering and machine tools. "These areas hold immense potential for increasing the loan portfolio of RRBs to MSMEs," she observed.

Ms. Sitharaman said all RRBs should have their own updated technology stack to stay relevant especially when digital and mobile banking service are already boosting financial access to regions such as northeastern States and hilly regions, with limited physical connectivity.

Focus on asset quality

She also cautioned sponsor banks and RRBs to recognise the challenges ahead and urged them to continue focusing on maintaining asset quality, expanding digital services and ensuring robust corporate governance.

She urged RRBs to put greater thrust on the clear identification of beneficiaries while sanctioning loans under various schemes.

"There should be focus on scaling up agriculture credit disbursement."

She also said the ₹100 crore MSME credit guarantee scheme announced during the Budget would be soon placed before the Cabinet for approval.

Air India Express to focus on metro to non-metro flights

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Air India Express will focus on growing flight connectivity from metro to tier-2 and tier-3 cities as part of its ongoing route rationalisation with the group's full-service airline, Air India.

"The largest chunk of domestic India market is metro to non-metro at 65%. This is also the fastest growing segment. While we will be present on some metro-to-metro routes, our primary focus is connectivity to tier-2 and tier-3 cities," said Aloke Singh, MD, Air India Express.

The airline concluded its merger with erstwhile AirAsia India on October 1, 2024 until when the priority was to integrate the entirely domestic network of the latter with the feed of Air India Express that operated only on international routes primarily focusing on connecting Kerala with Gulf and Middle East. The airline has also added 35 planes over the past year to grow its capacity where it had a "weak" presence, such as Chennai, Hyderabad and Kolkata.

In line with its plans for non-metro routes, the airline recently announced two new destinations – Jammu and Shri Vijaya Puram (Port Blair) – where flights will be offered from December 1. Agartala in Tripura was also a recent addition to the airline's domestic network.

The regional short-haul international market will also build connectivity between tier-2 and tier-3 cities to points in the Gulf region, West Asia, South East Asia and going forward South Asia, South East Asia, Far East and Common Wealth of Independent States (CIS) nations, Mr. Singh added.

The metro to non-metro network strategy for Air India Express complements Air India's where the focus is to connect trunk routes such as Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru, some key short-haul international destinations such as Dubai and Singapore with dense traffic and long-haul and ultra-long haul destinations in Europe, U.S., Canada, Japan and Australia.

KALOJI NARAYANA RAO UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, TELANGANA, WARANGAL
PG MEDICAL ADMISSIONS UNDER MANAGEMENT QUOTA FOR 2024-25
Applications through online are invited from NEET-PG-2024 qualified candidates for admission into PG Medical courses under Management Quota in Private Medical colleges affiliated to KNRUHS from 10/11/2024 to 17/11/2024.
For detailed notification and Prospectus refer to http://knruhs.telangana.gov.in
Date : 09/11/2024
DIPR R.O. No. : 640-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25 Dt. 09/11/2024
REGISTRAR

CSIR - NATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
UPPAL ROAD, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA -500 007
Notification No. PA - 04/2024; Dated 06.11.2024
CSIR – NGRI, Hyderabad is conducting Walk-in-Interviews from **November 18th to 10th December, 2024** for the positions of Project Personnel having qualifications of Masters in Geology / Applied Geology / Geophysics / Applied Geophysics / Marine Geophysics / Earth Sciences, Diploma in ECE /EEE / Civil Engineering, B.E/B.Tech in ECE & EIE etc.
For further details, please refer to Notification No. PA-04/2024 in CSIR-NGRI website.
Sd/-
Administrative Officer

COIMBATORE CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Tender Notice No.e57/2024 Date 09.11.2024
Fund - O&M DGF 2024-25
(Two Cover System-e-submission only)
1. Bids are invited Two cover system - Coimbatore Corporation – Central Zone - Modernization of Ukkadam Bus Stand O&M DGF 2024-25- Total Estimate Amount **Rs.2155.00 Lakhs.**
2. The bid documents can be downloaded from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** free of cost.
3. Amount of Earnest Money Deposit will be 1% of the estimated value of work.
4. Any additional/further details and conditions related to these works can be had from the office of the Commissioner, Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation.
5. **Important dates**
1. Date and time of Pre Bid Meeting : **03.12.2024 at 11.00 A.M**
2. Last Date and time for downloading bid documents : **17.12.2024 at 3.00 P.M**
3. Last Date and time for submission of bid document, online e-submission only : **17.12.2024 at 3.00 P.M**
4. Date and time of opening of the Technical Bids : **18.12.2024 at 4.00 P.M**
6. In the event of the specified date for submission of bids is declared as a holiday, bids will be received and opened on the next working day at the same time
7. **The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, Big Bazaar Street, Townhall, Coimbatore – 641 001, Phone 0422-2396026.**
Email: **commr.coimbatore @tn.gov.in**
DIPR/4843/TENDER/2024
COMMISSIONER, COIMBATORE CORPORATION

इंटरनेशनल एडवांस्ड रिसर्च सेंटर फॉर पाउडर मेटलर्जी एंड न्यू मटेरियल्स (एआरसीआई)
INTERNATIONAL ADVANCED RESEARCH CENTRE FORPOWDER METALLURGY AND NEW MATERIALS (ARCI)
(विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, भारत सरकार का स्वायत्त अनुसंधान एवं विकास केंद्र)
(An Autonomous R&D Centre of Department of Science & Tech. Govt. of India)
आरसीआई–न्यू एयरपोर्ट रोड़, बालापुर, हैदराबाद – 500 005, तेलंगाना
RCI - New Airport Road, Balapur, Hyderabad - 500 005, Telangana
Advt. No. ARCI/HRD/Fellowships/1/2024
Walk-in Interviews for
Research Associates/Senior/Junior Research Fellows & Project Staff Positions
एआरसीआई ऐसे प्रतिभाशाली उम्मीदवारों का नियोजन करना चाहता है, जिनका शैक्षणिक अभिलेख निरंतर अच्छा और उनमें नवीन अनुसंधान करने के लिए प्रबल उत्साह और प्रेरणा हो, ताकि वे उन्नत पदार्थ संबंधी विभिन्न उभरते क्षेत्रों में समयबद्ध प्रायोजित/आंतरिक परियोजनाओं में योगदान दे सकें। अनुसंधान अध्येतावृत्ति और परियोजना स्टाफ पदों का विवरण निम्नलिखित है:
ARCI is looking to engage talented candidates, having a consistently good academic record, with a strong zeal and motivation to pursue innovative research, to contribute in time-bound sponsored/in-house projects in various emerging areas related to advanced materials. The following are the details of Research Fellowships and Project Staff positions:

Details of Fellowship & Project Staff Positions	Essential Qualifications & Experience
1. अनुसंधान सहयोगी - I **Research Associate - I** Age : 35 years; No. of Posts = 03 Emoluments: Rs. 58,000/- + HRA	Ph.D. or M.E./M.Tech. with 3 years of research, teaching & design and Development experience, with atleast one research paper in SCI Journal.
2. कनिष्ठ अनुसंधान अध्येता **Junior Research Fellow** Age : 28 years; No. of Posts = 20 Emoluments: Rs. 37,000/- + HRA	1. Candidates should possess valid **GATE/NET score** card or should have qualified National level examinations conducted by Central Government Departments/ Agencies/Institutions **AND shall have** 2. 1st class in M.Sc. (Physics/Chemistry/Materials Science) OR B.E./B.Tech./M.E./ M.Tech. (in Metallurgy/Metallurgical & Materials/Chemical/Mechanical Engg.).
3. वरिष्ठ अनुसंधान अध्येता **Senior Research Fellow** Age : 32 years ; No. of Posts = 02 Emoluments: Rs. 42,000/- + HRA	1. Shall have Qualifications as prescribed above for Junior Research Fellow **plus** 2. Two (2) years research experience.
4. परियोजना सहयोगी - I **Project Associate - I** Age : 35 years; No. of Posts = 06 Emoluments: Rs. 31,000/-+ HRA (for GATE/NET);Rs. 25,000/-+ HRA (for Non-GATE/NET)	M.Sc. (Physics/Chemistry/Materials Science) OR B.E./B.Tech. (Metallurgy/ Metallurgical and Materials/Chemical/Mechanical/Electrical/EEE/ECE /Energy/ Nanotechnology).
5. परियोजना तकनीकी सहायक **Project Technical Assistant** Age : 50 years ; No. of Posts = 05 Emoluments: Rs. 20,000/- + HRA	B.Sc. in Physics/Materials Science Or 3 years Diploma in Metallurgical/Chemical Mechanical/Electrical/ECE/Automobile Engineering.

For Completer Advertisement with details log on to https://www.arci.res.in/careers.html
Last Date for submission of online application: 24th November, 2024.

Inactivated COVID-19 vaccine CoronaVac associated with TTP

The Hindu Bureau

A study published in the journal *Frontiers of Medicine* has found an association between the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine CoronaVac from Sinovac Biotech and immune thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP). The study presents two cases of TTP occurring after the administration of the vaccine, highlighting the potential association between this type of vaccine and TTP. The article also provides an analysis of TTP incidence in the Nanjing area of China, suggesting a possible correlation between COVID-19 vaccination and the occurrence of TTP.

The first case details a 23-year-old female who developed symptoms of TTP three days after receiving her second dose of CoronaVac. Initially presenting with dizziness and weakness, her condition progressed to include thrombocytopenia, anaemia, elevated lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), and hydroxybutyrate dehydrogenase (-HBDH) levels, with further deterioration indicated by decreased platelet count, haemoglobin levels, and the presence of schistocytes in peripheral blood smears. Her condition improved following the introduction of glucocorticoids, plasma exchange, and rituximab, with a gradual return to normal values for ADAMTS13 antigen and inhibitory antibodies.

The second case involves a 45-year-old female who experienced fever and muscle soreness five days after her second dose of CoronaVac. She presented with high fever, haematological abnormalities, acute renal failure, and thrombocytopenia. She was finally diagnosed with TTP based on the presence of schistocytes in peripheral blood smears and significantly low ADAMTS13 levels. Treatment with plasma exchange and glucocorticoids led to her recovery.

Incidence rates

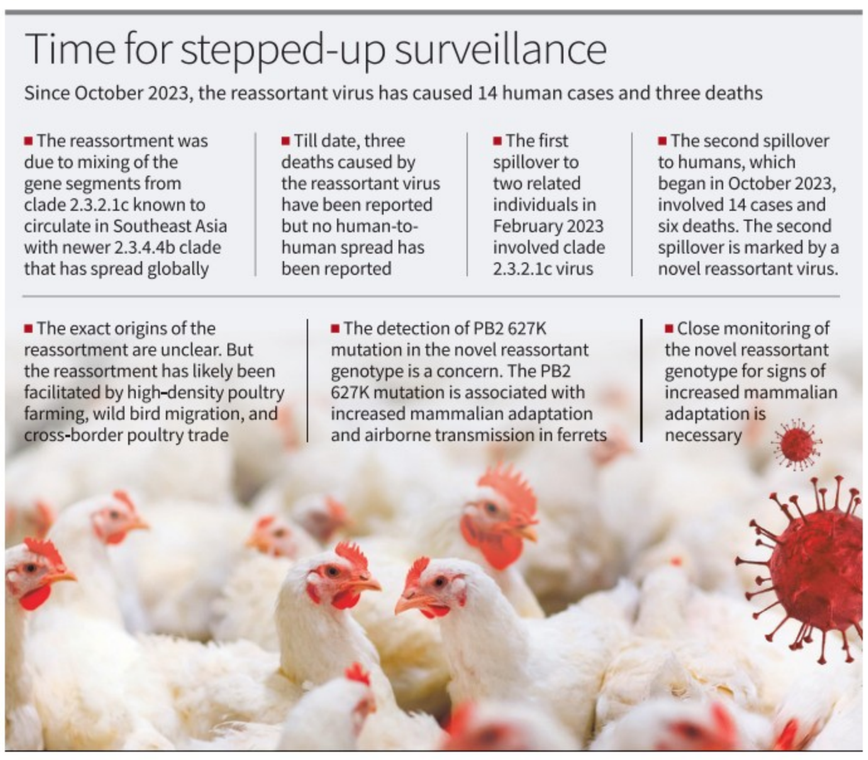
The study also examines a series of TTP cases from 14 hospitals in the Nanjing area, showing an increase in TTP incidence from 2019 to 2022 that may be related to COVID-19 vaccination. The data suggests that while TTP is rare – about one new case per million – the incidence rates increased in years following the initiation of COVID-19 vaccination campaigns. It is hypothesised that the increase in TTP cases could be associated with the vaccines, although a direct causal link is not established.

The report delves into the potential mechanisms by which COVID-19 vaccines could trigger TTP, focusing on the autoimmune response that may cross-react with ADAMTS13, leading to its deficiency and subsequent TTP development.

Why Cambodia's H5N1 reassortant virus needs close monitoring

All available data suggest human infections caused by the reassortant virus are attributed to direct poultry-to-human transmission, with no evidence of human-to-human spread

The Hindu Bureau



More than 10 years without any H5N1 case, Cambodia suddenly witnessed a spurt of H5N1 cases in humans, with 16 cases reported between February 2023 and August 2024 caused by A/H5 clade 2.3.2.1c viruses. If the sudden spurt in cases was already concerning, 14 cases were caused by a novel mixing or reassortment of A/H5N1 virus. The reassortment was due to mixing of the gene segments from clade 2.3.2.1c known to circulate in Southeast Asia with the newer 2.3.4.4b clade that has spread globally.

Investigations found that three human cases were in contact with sick poultry or bird droppings. Till date, three deaths caused by the reassortant virus have been reported. However, no human-to-human spread has been reported till date.

In a preprint, which is yet to be peer-reviewed, posted on November 5, a team led by the Pasteur Institute in Cambodia published a detailed genetic analysis of the novel H5N1 reassortant, which yielded new details on the spillover timeline and emphasised the need for stepped-up surveillance.

For each human case, a collaborative One Health investigation was conducted, which was able to link the human cases to infected poultry through rapid whole genome sequencing. The rapid assessment through genome sequencing and linking the human cases to poultry enabled rapid response and control measures.

Clade 2.3.2.1c viruses in poultry were first reported in Cambodia in March 2014 and one human case caused by this clade thereafter was also reported from Cambodia. The clade 2.3.2.1c viruses continued to circulate since 2014. However, clade 2.3.4.4b viruses were first detected in live bird markets in Cambodia in 2021, co-circulating with clade 2.3.2.1c viruses.

There were two spillovers to humans, with the first occurring in February 2023 involving clade 2.3.2.1c viruses when two related individuals were detected and death of one person. The second spillover to humans began in October 2023. Between October 2023 and the end of August 2024, Cambodia has reported 14 cases with six deaths. The second spillover is marked by a novel reassortant virus.

According to the authors, the exact origins of this reassortment are still unclear. However, the reassortment has very likely been "facilitated by high-density poultry farming, wild bird migration, and cross-border poultry trade in the region, highlighting the ongoing risk of zoonotic transmission in Southeast Asia".

Apparently, after the emergence of the novel reassortant genotype, the clade 2.3.2.1c is no longer in circulation in poultry in Cambodia. "Novel reassortant replaced the circulating 2.3.2.1c clade in Cambodian poultry," Jurre Y. Siegers, from the Institut Pasteur du Cambodge, Phnom Penh, Cambodia and the first author of the preprint said in a post in X (formerly Twitter). "All available data suggest human infections are attributed to direct poultry-to-human transmission, with no evidence of human-to-human spread."

Phylogenetic analysis of the HA gene segment undertaken by the researchers reveals that all A/H5 viruses sequenced from human cases belong to clade 2.3.2.1c. According to the authors, the virus responsible for the February 2023 case in humans was closely related to clade 2.3.2.1c A/H5N1 viruses that has been circulating in Cambodian poultry and wild birds since 2013.

Significant divergence

But since October 2023, the hemagglutinin (HA) sequences from both humans and poultry in Cambodia displayed significant divergence from earlier Cambodia strains. "These HA genes clustered with two duck samples from Vietnam during July and August 2023, and were derived from a sublineage of clade 2.3.2.1.c continuously detected in Laos during October 2020 and May 2023," they write. "Together, this indicates an introduction of a sublineage of clade 2.3.2.1c viruses with a common ancestor detected in poultry in Vietnam and Laos, but the exact introduction pathway cannot be pinpointed due to gaps in available surveillance data."

Though the phenotypic contributions of newly introduced clade 2.3.4.4b internal gene segments have yet to be elucidated, the presence of certain amino acid mutations in both human and poultry viruses in the gene segment of 2.3.4.4b suggests enhanced capacity for mammalian infection, they note. "To better understand the zoonotic risk that these viruses pose, further risk assessment in silico, ex vivo, in vivo, and in vitro is critical. In addition, the detection of the PB2 627K mutation in the novel reassortant genotype in poultry is also a concern, as it may become established in widespread circulation," they caution. The PB2 627K mutation is associated with increased mammalian adaptation and airborne transmission in ferrets. This underscores the need for close monitoring of the novel reassortant genotype for signs of increased mammalian adaptation.

This makes it critical to carry out sustained surveillance of avian influenza virus circulation in poultry and wild birds, particularly in high-risk regions like Southeast Asia. Simultaneously, awareness programmes to reduce human exposure to infected poultry is paramount. Also important is building awareness about safe handling practices, and encouraging early healthcare seeking behaviour, says Dr. Siegers.

India will fail to meet 2025 TB 'elimination' target

R. Prasad

In March 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi set an ambitious goal of "eliminating" TB by 2025, five years ahead of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) deadline set for 2030. Mr. Modi reiterated the government's goal of "eliminating" TB by 2025 even in March 2023 while inaugurating the One World TB Summit 2023 in Varanasi.

The SDG targets for 2030 is 90% reduction in TB deaths compared with 2015 and 80% reduction in TB incidence compared with 2015. As per WHO's post-2015 End TB Strategy, compared with 2015, countries are required to meet the 2025 milestones of reducing TB deaths by 75%, and reducing TB incidence rate by 50%. But as per the WHO Global TB Report 2024 and the India TB Report 2024 released a few days ago, India will not be able to even meet the 2025 milestones set by the WHO End TB Strategy, let alone achieving the ambitious goal of "eliminating" TB by 2025.

According to the India TB Report 2024, the TB incidence rate in India in 2015 was 237 per 1,00,000 population and the mortality rate was 28 per 1,00,000 population in 2015. According to the WHO global TB report 2024, the TB incidence rate for India in 2023 was 195 per 1,00,000 population. It was 199 per 1,00,000 in 2022. In the case of TB mortality, the rate was 22 per 1,00,000 population in 2023, down from 23 per one lakh in 2022. As per the WHO report, the TB incidence rate in India had reduced by 18% between 2015 and 2023, while the reduction in the total number of TB deaths between 2015 and 2023 was only 24%. Since the End TB Strategy 2025 milestone requires 75% reduction in the total number of TB deaths and 50% reduction in TB incidence, India has to reduce the TB death rate from 28 per 1,00,000 in 2015 to seven per 1,00,000 by 2025 and the TB incidence rate from 237 per 1,00,000 in 2015 to 118.5 per 1,00,000 by 2025.

Lagging: Even in 2023, India has not met the 2020 milestones of the End TB Strategy for both TB incidence and deaths. GETTY IMAGES

Not only will India fail to "eliminate" TB by 2025, it will not even be able to meet even the End TB Strategy 2025 milestones for TB incidence and the total number of TB deaths.

Worse, even in 2023, India has not met the 2020 milestones of the End TB Strategy for both TB incidence and deaths. As per the End TB Strategy target for 2020, there should have been a 35% reduction in the number of TB deaths compared with 2015 and 20% reduction in TB incidence rate compared with 2015. With only 24% reduction in the total number of TB deaths and 18% reduction in TB incidence between 2015 and 2023, India has not even met the 2020 milestones for TB deaths and TB incidence even three years after the 2020 target date.

India did not meet the 'elimination' targets set for 2023 by the India's National Strategic Plan for TB elimination: 2017-2025 report published in 2017 – reducing the estimated TB incidence rate per lakh population to 77, and reducing the estimated TB deaths per 1,00,000 population to six.

Despite the very slow progress in reducing TB incidence and deaths and far from "eliminating" TB by 2025, a November 5 PIB release says India achieved a "noteworthy 17.7% decline in TB incidence from 2015 to 2023, a rate that is over twice the global average decline of 8.3%", as reported by the WHO Global TB Report 2024.

SNAPSHOTS

Caterpillar fungus can slow down growth of cancer cells

New research into a chemical produced by a caterpillar fungus that has shown promise as a possible cancer treatment has revealed how it interacts with genes to interrupt cell growth signals. The chemical Cordycepin, interrupts the cell growth signals that are overactive in cancer, an approach that could be less damaging to healthy tissues than most currently available treatments. Cordycepin is converted to cordycepin triphosphate, and this molecule was found to directly affect cancer cells.

Daytime sleepiness may be tied to dementia syndrome

Older people who are sleepy during the day or lack enthusiasm for activities due to sleep issues may be more likely to develop a syndrome that can lead to dementia. People with the syndrome have a slow walking speed and have some memory issues, although they do not have a mobility disability or dementia. Called motoric cognitive risk syndrome, the condition can occur before dementia develops. The study does not prove that these sleep-related issues cause the syndrome, it only shows an association.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF POMPEII

DNA evidence of people buried in volcanic eruption

In 79 CE, the active volcanic system in southern Italy known as Somma-Vesuvius erupted, burying the small Roman town of Pompeii and everyone in it. Now, ancient DNA collected shows that individuals' sexes and family relationships do not match traditional interpretations formulated largely from modern-day assumptions – an adult wearing a golden bracelet and holding a child, traditionally interpreted as a mother and child, were an unrelated adult male and child.

Question Corner

Not volcanism

Did the world's best-preserved dinosaurs really die in 'Pompeii-type' events?

By the 1990s, it was clear that the so-called Yixian Formation contained uniquely well-preserved remains of dinosaurs, birds, mammals, insects, frogs, turtles and other creatures. Unlike the skeletal and often fragmentary fossils unearthed in most other places, many animals came complete with internal organs, feathers, scales, fur and stomach contents. It suggested some kind of sudden, unusual preservation process at work. The leading hypothesis for the perfect fossils up to now has been sudden burial by volcanism, perhaps like the waves of hot ash from Mt. Vesuvius that entombed many citizens of Pompeii in A.D. 79. The Yixian deposits have been popularly dubbed the "Chinese Pompeii". Though the Pompeii idea is highly appealing, a study says it is totally wrong. Instead, the study says the creatures were preserved by more mundane events including collapses of burrows and rainy periods that built up sediments that buried the dead in oxygen-free pockets.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

What happens to Indian firms on U.S. blacklist?

Were they sanctioned for supply and sales to Russia? Will things be different under the Trump administration?

Suhasini Haidar

The story so far:

The government is still gauging the impact of a decision by the U.S. Treasury department to impose sanctions on 19 Indian entities among nearly 400 companies, mainly for supplying "dual-use" technologies to Russia. In addition, the Bureau of Industry and Security run by the U.S. Commerce Department added 40 companies including five from India for re-exporting goods and parts to Russia that were imported from the U.S.

Why are recent U.S. sanctions significant?

Since April 2021, when U.S. President Joe Biden passed an executive order (E.O. 14024) on "Blocking Property With Respect To Specified Harmful Foreign Activities of the Government of the Russian Federation", the U.S. has sanctioned hundreds of companies from more than 20 countries worldwide for supplies and sales to Russia, including some from India. But on October 30, the U.S. Department of Treasury invoked the E.O. to sanction 19 Indian entities, including companies and individuals for providing "dual-use" technologies to Russia and other deals with Russian companies calling them "Third-Country Sanctions Evaders". The companies, mostly based in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bengaluru and Hyderabad, are reputable, well-established companies dealing in technological manufacturing, with some even holding government contracts. These companies will now be on a U.S. "blacklist", have assets or funds in the U.S. frozen, and face travel bans.

> While a new U.S. administration after Donald Trump's electoral win is expected to pursue a softer line on Russia, it is unlikely that the sanctions will be removed anytime soon, say analysts.

How has the Indian government responded?

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has been fairly muted on the action by the U.S., which is likely to cost Indian companies millions of dollars in contracts and legal appeals. When asked during a briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that the MEA had "seen reports of U.S. sanctions", but declined to comment on whether this was discussed between U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan and NSA Ajit Doval, who spoke a day later. The MEA said the companies were "not in violation of Indian laws", and pointed out that the government was trying to "clarify issues". "India has a robust legal and regulatory framework on strategic trade and non-proliferation controls," Mr. Jaiswal said, referring to India's membership of key non-proliferation export control regimes such as the Wassenaar Arrangement, Australia Group and the Missile Technology Control Regime.

What else can India do?

India does not recognise unilateral sanctions by the U.S. or any other country, following only those sanctions imposed by the UN. However, as India-U.S. high-tech trade increases, the U.S.'s strictures will have an increasing impact on both Indian companies and the government's moves. According to the MEA, Indian agencies are already "sensitising" Indian companies on the new measures being implemented by the U.S. that could impact them. The government could also increase measures to sanction-proof those Indian companies doing business with Russia, by building more structural banking mechanisms, and facilitating payments in national currencies, as have been explored for refineries procuring Russian oil, diamond processing units and other sectors where the U.S. and EU sanctions have been the most stringent. Eventually, rejecting any U.S. decision will come at the cost of bilateral ties, and the government will have to evaluate the cost-benefit calculus on whether to accept U.S.'s moves, or to react more strongly to sanctions.

Will the Trump victory make a difference?

While a new U.S. administration after Donald Trump's electoral win is expected to pursue a softer line on Russia, it is unlikely that these sanctions will be removed anytime soon, say analysts. During his campaign, Mr. Trump has consistently side-stepped any criticism of Russia's war in Ukraine, saying that once he comes to power, he would "end the war within 24 hours". This has been seen as an indication that the Trump administration would not impose further sanctions on Russia. However, the U.S. Congress has frequently taken very tough positions on Russia, and in 2017, virtually forced Mr. Trump's hand during his first tenure into signing the CAATSA law (Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act) that threatened sanctions against countries for procuring major Russian military hardware, including the S-400 missile defence systems that India has signed a deal for. While Mr. Trump has led the Republican party to a majority in the Senate, it is unlikely that he will reverse any of the sanctions already imposed on Russia.

How will Trump treat illegal Indians?

Why is the U.S. repatriating a large number of Indians? What are the various legally accepted processes through which Indian citizens can enter the U.S.? If the focus of the Trump presidency is expected to be on cross-border flow from Latin American countries, will Indians be affected?

Kallol Bhattacherjee

The story so far:

On October 22, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) flew a "large-frame charter removal flight" to repatriate Indian nationals "who did not establish legal basis to remain in the United States." Royce Murray, assistant secretary for Border and Immigration Policy at the DHS, said the U.S. had repatriated over 1,100 Indian nationals in the previous fiscal year.

Why were the Indians repatriated?

The U.S. officials maintain that they want to deter "irregular migration" to the U.S. from India among other countries, and that the charter flight was in addition to the regular removals that the Immigration and Customs Enforcement department carries out through commercial flights. The flight was aimed at showcasing the strong will of the then poll-bound Joseph Biden administration to enforce immigration laws and deliver "tough consequences for those who enter unlawfully."

What are the ways in which irregular Indian immigrants try to enter the U.S.?

Indians who try to enter the U.S. unlawfully generally try to use the southern U.S. border with Mexico and the Canada-U.S. border in the north. The pressure is more on the Mexico-U.S. border as several Latin American or central American countries like Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala are known to provide visa-free entry to U.S.-visa holding Indians for a period of time. Using this facility, some people try to stay for extended periods of time in these countries that are known for their porous borders and easy travel to the Texas border by using dangerous human trafficking agents and organisations. India has a large number of agreements for visas with these countries that allow for extended stays for Indian citizens. For example, Peru is among those that waives visa requirement for Indian nationals for business and tourism purposes for one or more stays totalling up to 180 days per year, provided that they hold permanent residence or a visa valid for a minimum of six months for Australia, Canada, U.K., the U.S., or any Schengen country.

> Anti-immigration measures under Donald Trump will be uniformly implemented and is likely to hit Indian immigrants too

Stringent measures: A Texas delegate holds a sign during the third day of the 2024 Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 17. AFP

From which States is there a high rate of irregular immigration?

The latest flight from the U.S. that carried the Indian nationals landed in Punjab, an U.S. official told the media, indicating that most of the people on board that special flight hailed from Punjab. *The Hindu* had reported in November 2023 that from November 2022 to September 2023, a record number of Indians – 96,917 – were arrested while crossing illegally into the U.S., according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (UCBP) data. The number of Indians trying to enter the U.S. has witnessed a five-fold rise since 2019. Available data indicates that Gujarat has been supplying half of the total illegal immigrants trying to enter the U.S. There have also been several instances of deaths of people while trying to cross the border. In a well-documented case, a family of four – Jagadish Patel, Vaishaliben Patel and their two children, Vihangi and Dharmik, froze to death as they tried to cross from Canada into the U.S.

What is meant by lawful immigration to U.S.?

There are various legally accepted processes through which Indian citizens immigrate to the U.S. Every U.S. fiscal year (October 1 to September 30) around 1,40,000 employment-based immigrant visas are made available to qualified persons under the provisions of U.S. immigration law. Employment-based immigrant visas fall into five "preference categories". In certain cases, spouses and children are allowed to join the applicant. The professionals who fall in the first three categories are persons with extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business or athletics, outstanding professors and researchers with adequate experience, multinational managers and executives. Professionals holding advanced degrees and persons of exceptional abilities can also apply for immigrating lawfully to the U.S. Skilled workers, professionals and unskilled workers who can fill positions after two years of training also fall in this range. The fourth category is 'Certain Special Immigrants' that includes professionals who work with broadcast media in the U.S., certain employees or former employees of the U.S. government as well as people from conflict zones like Iraq and Afghanistan (translators/interpreters). The fifth category includes investors who can launch foreign commercial enterprises in the U.S.

President-elect Donald Trump, who is known to have used expressions like "poisoning the blood" on the issue of immigration, has not targeted Indians. In fact, during the closing part of his campaign, he even spoke for protection of the Hindu minority community in Bangladesh which appealed to Indian-origin voters in the U.S. That apart, Vice-President-elect J.D. Vance's wife Usha Chilukuri Vance is of Indian origin. The greater part of his focus on immigration has been turned towards the cross-border flow from Latin American countries. However, anti-immigration measures under him will be uniformly implemented and is likely to hit Indian immigrants too.

What was Trump's policy on immigration during his first term?

During his first stint (2017-2021), President Trump had increased the rate of denial of H1B visas to Indian professionals. Mr. Trump had issued a "Buy American and Hire American" executive order on April 18, 2017. Subsequently, the Foreign Affairs Manual included a directive to consular officials to keep the executive order in view while deciding on granting of a visa. According to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), under President Trump, denial of H1B visa for initial services grew rapidly from 13% in 2017 to 21% in 2019. There were also allegations that U.S. consular officials were making it extremely difficult for Indian companies to transfer employees from India to the U.S. under the L1 visa category. During his first term, Mr. Trump had given the slogan of 'Build the Wall' in the southern border of the U.S. with Mexico. In the just-concluded presidential election, he focused on stopping illegal immigration and deporting foreigners who are staying in the U.S. illegally – the number being touted to be in the region of 11 million. Mr. Trump has delivered a series of speeches on how he plans to deal with this problem which is presumed to affect the job market in the U.S. He has declared that the National Guard will be deployed to deport illegal overstayers and that he might even invoke the 1798 Alien Enemies Act. However, there is little clarity about how Mr. Trump would address immigration-related concerns that his supporters have displayed during the campaign.

In addition, his anti-immigrant stance will clash with the economic policy of his tech czars who want to access the Indian market. It will be ironical if the Trump presidency opposes the entry of people from markets favoured by Trump-friendly business tycoons.

What are the costs of population decline?

What are the pros and cons of increasing fertility rates? Which are the States with a growing population of the elderly? Has it reached a crisis point in some States? Will an uneven population growth shake up the federal structure? What will happen in the next round of delimitation?

Priscilla Jebaraj

The story so far:

The Chief Ministers of both Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu expressed concerns about the low fertility rates in their States recently. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has said that he planned to introduce legislation to incentivise more children per family.

What is the current demographic situation, especially in the southern States?

After decades of family planning policies seeking to slow population growth, India has been waking up to the fact that the success of such policies is also leading to an increasingly ageing population. This is not a uniform phenomenon – southern States, as well as smaller northern States have seen a much sharper decrease in total fertility rates, defined as the average number of children born to women during their child-bearing years. Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, for instance, recorded fertility rates of 1.4 between 2019 and 2021, according to data from the Office of the Registrar General of India, while Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Punjab, and Himachal Pradesh had fertility rates of 1.5. At the other end of the spectrum are Bihar, with a fertility rate of 3, Uttar Pradesh (2.7), and Madhya Pradesh (2.6). States with lower fertility rates have largely developed faster, but are now faced with the spectre of a rapidly ageing population. The *India Ageing* report published by UNFPA last year used Health Ministry data to show that while the share of India's elderly population is projected to rise from 10.1% in 2021 to 15% by 2036, the demographic transition is more advanced in some States. In Kerala, senior citizens accounted for 16.5% of the population in 2021, a figure that is set to rise to 22.8% by 2036; T.N.'s elderly will make up 20.8% of its population in 2036, while it will be 19% in Andhra Pradesh. In Bihar, on the other hand, only 7.7% were elderly in 2021, and this is projected to rise to just 11% in 2036.

> 'Pro-natalist policies by incentivising women to have more children have not been a very successful approach internationally'

An elderly people: Health expenses are likely to rise significantly in States with ageing populations. THULASI KAKKAT

What is the likely economic impact?

"India's demographic transition is much ahead of its socio-economic transition... To understand the impact of this, the most important indicator is not the proportion of the elderly population, but rather the old age dependency ratio, that is, how many older people are there for every 100 people of working age, between 18 to 59 years," says Srinivas Goli, an Associate Professor at the International Institute for Population Sciences. "When this ratio goes above 15%, that is when you have the onset of an ageing crisis." A number of States have already crossed this point, according to projections by the National Commission on Population, with Kerala having an old age dependency ratio of 26.1 in 2021, followed by Tamil Nadu (20.5), Himachal Pradesh (19.6), and Andhra Pradesh (18.5). This means these States' window of opportunity, to reap the demographic dividend of economic growth from a large number of young workers unburdened by the economic and health demands of a large number of minor or elderly dependents, has already closed.

Health expenses are likely to rise significantly in States with ageing populations. One analysis of NSSO data, in a study on demographic diversity by Tulane University's K.S. James and IIPS scholar Shubhra Kriti published by *The India Forum*, shows that the southern States, with just one-fifth of India's population, spent 32% of the country's total out-of-pocket expenditure on cardiovascular diseases in 2017-18, while eight Hindi belt States with half the country's population, spent just 24%.

The solution proposed by the Chief Ministers of increasing the fertility rate is also likely to reduce women's participation in the labour force, which will also hurt their economies. Southern politicians have also raised concerns with the Finance Commission that while their successful economies have pumped in higher tax revenues to the central pool, they get a diminishing share of the central pie of resources due to their slowing population growth.

What are the political implications?

Uneven population growth is set to shake up the federal structure, with the current freeze on the number of seats in Parliament set to expire in 2026, after which a new delimitation exercise will change the representation that States have in the Lok Sabha. The study by James and Kriti estimated that Uttar Pradesh is likely to gain 12 seats, followed by Bihar (10) and Rajasthan (7), while Tamil Nadu is set to lose nine seats, followed by Kerala (6) and Andhra Pradesh (5), due to their falling share in national population.

What are the solutions being considered?

The southern CMs seem to be advocating pro-natalist policies by incentivising women to have more babies. "This has not been a very successful approach internationally. Educated women know they are not reproductive machines, and forced fertility will not work, nor will incentives that do not recognise what families actually need," says Dr. Goli. He recommends changes in work-family policies, with paid maternity and paternity leaves, accessible childcare, and employment policies that reduce the "motherhood penalty". He notes that States and nations with better gender equity are better able to maintain fertility rates at sustainable levels, as women are more likely to have children if they will not be deprived of economic independence while doing so.

Another approach is to increase the working lifespan and thus reduce the old age dependency ratio. The southern States are already magnets for economic migrants. However, Dr. Goli points out that though these migrants make social security demands of their destination States, they continue to be counted in their home States for political and financial distribution purposes, leaving southern States in a difficult tangle.

Revenge of the dispossessed

MAGA

What the ruling establishments of both Republican and Democratic parties had tried to dismiss as an inconsequential disturbance in American politics has turned out to be a powerful political movement that returned Donald Trump to the White House

Varghese K. George

An undefined, indefinable glorious past; a present that is of turmoil and loss; a future of reclamation and renewal – all popular mobilisations, religious and secular, populist and elite, have this understanding of time in common. At its core, the Make America Great Again – MAGA – movement that Donald Trump leads in the U.S. also follows this understanding of the past, present and the future. It has precedents and parallels, but there are uniquely American and contemporary factors too that fuel MAGA.

MAGA has an immediate history which starts around the turn of the millennium with the 9/11 terrorist attack, and an economic crisis. Within the decade, yet another economic downturn battered the country, and Barack Obama was elected the first non-white President of the country in 2008. A sharp division in the American society emerged against this backdrop, about the country's identity, purpose and claims of exceptionalism. The MAGA movement is the result of this churn. The heart of the debate is globalisation, and its discontents on two fronts – cultural and economic. MAGA is an insurrection of the dispossessed who may not care for, or understand, or are incapable of, or reject the standards of liberal democracy.

Dominant account

The dominant account of MAGA considers its foot soldiers as a group of racist, misogynist bigots led by a megalomaniac. This view is supported by the unhinged statements by Mr. Trump and his associates about migrants and women. It can be safely assumed many racists, misogynists, homophobes, and nativists of America are in MAGA, but it is not limited to them. The 2024 victory of Mr. Trump is a clear demonstration of the wide base of support that MAGA has. Around 45% of Latinos are estimated to have voted for Mr. Trump this year; and so did around 20% of Blacks and considerable sections of Hindus and Muslims.

Fertile ground

Global trade had devastated American manufacturing and impoverished its working class. By 2010, the current generation could not take for granted a life better than the previous one, as has been the case in the U.S. all through history.

The country was meanwhile caught in wars abroad. Mr. Trump, earlier a New York businessman and a Democrat, was an opponent of trade and wars for decades. By 2015, he had made up his mind to make the Republican Party the platform of his politics and personal ambitions. The ground for MAGA was already fertile. What was lacking was "someone with the political talent, charisma, fame, or resources to popularize its ideology (as Ronald Reagan did for his sunny small-government conservatism) – until Trump," writes Isaac Arnsdorf in *Finish What We Started – The MAGA Movement's Ground War to End Democracy*. It was Reagan who first used the slogan, 'Let's Make America Great Again,' and Mr. Trump has counted him as the last great President of the country before himself.

Strange and paradoxical as it may well be, a major section of American working class found a champion in Mr. Trump. The economic distress of the majority is not captured in expert accounts but Mr. Trump could sense the opportunity to market his politics.

Apart from identifying the potency of anti-globalism as a political agenda, Mr. Trump who has no record of being a practising Christian, also sensed the cultural dispossession that the white Christians of America were confronting. The religious composition of the population is changing due to changing patterns of migration, and an evident trend of secularisation.

In the early 1990s, 90% of U.S. adults identified as Christians, but now the figure is around two-third of that. The proportion of those who identified as followers of no religion grew sharply in the same period, which is currently at 29%. They form the ruling elite of the country.

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH

The share of Muslims and Hindus among new immigrants began to rise too. Christianity is part of MAGA's motivation and Mr. Trump constantly invokes it. In 2016, he promised "Christianity will have power," and in 2024 he asked Christians to unite behind him.

But he specifically sought to enlist Hindus and Muslims too into MAGA. Critics of MAGA could never imagine that it might appeal to minorities. "The MAGA movement now controlled one of the two major parties, but it remained unpopular with a majority of Americans... Democrats discovered that Trump's MAGA brand was widely disliked," writes Mr. Arnsdorf in the book that was published after the 2022 mid-term election setback for the party. Democrats would discover something else by 2024 – minorities in MAGA.

Minorities are the most ardent aspirants to the promised greatness of America, and they probably connect with the slogan as well as the current reality of challenges very well. Minorities are also evidently concerned about protecting their religious rights, perhaps even more than Christians. Mr. Trump promised them that, and showed the irreligious third of the population as their enemy.

While the Christian, nativist right is a major driving force of the MAGA movement, it has found common cause with other religious groups against the non-religiosity of the elite. For instance, the large sections of Hindu and Muslim conservatives are vocal supporters of MAGA's resistance to transgenderism.

Electoral performance

This explains the latest surge in MAGA's enhanced popularity, and Mr. Trump's electoral performance. He could flip Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin, which gave Joe Biden his victory in 2020. In Pennsylvania, Mr. Trump increased his support among Lations to 42%, from 27% in 2020. In Dearborn, in Michigan, where 55% of the population is Muslim, Mr. Trump won more than 42% votes and led Ms. Harris by around six points. In 2020, three-fourths of the city had voted for Mr. Biden. African Americans' support for Mr. Trump is constantly on the rise –from 8% in 2016, to 13% in 2020 and 20% in 2024. Exit polls suggest that a third of pro-choice women voted for Mr. Trump. This is the "the biggest, the broadest, the most unified coalition in American history," Mr. Trump said after the results.

In the late 19th century, the U.S. had witnessed a populist upsurge that sought to rein in its robber barons and protect the interest of the commoners. Both parties had to respond to the questions raised by this populism. The ruling establishments of Republican and Democratic parties have so far tried to dismiss MAGA as an inconsequential disturbance that would eventually fade. The 2024 elections showed it is persistent.

THE GIST

After Barack Obama's back-to-back victories, a sharp division in American society emerged, about the country's identity, purpose and claims of exceptionalism. The MAGA movement is the result of this churn

The 2024 victory of Trump is a clear demonstration of the wide base of support that MAGA has. Around 45% of Latinos are estimated to have voted for him; and so did around 20% of Blacks and considerable sections of Hindus and Muslims

While the Christian, nativist right is a major driving force of the MAGA movement, it has found common cause with other religious groups against the non-religiosity of the elite and with the resistance to transgenderism

Minister of war

Israel Katz

Israel's new Defence Minister, who replaced Yoav Gallant, echoes Prime Minister Netanyahu's views on key policy issues

Adithya Narayan

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whose firing and rehiring of Defence Minister Yoav Gallant made a controversy in March 2023, triggered another political storm last week by sacking him again. This time, Mr. Netanyahu replaced Mr. Gallant with Foreign Minister Israel Katz. That the move came on November 6, when the Jewish nation's strongest ally, the U.S., would be preoccupied with presidential elections, was no surprise.

Mr. Netanyahu's decision spurred protests in Tel Aviv and other parts of the country, where citizens assembled for a repeat of the 2023 demonstrations, calling it 'Gallant Night II'. Unlike last time, the Prime Minister stuck to his decision, seeing through that Mr. Gallant, who rose through the ranks to become a General during a 35-year-long military career, made way for Mr. Katz, a long-term ally with little military background.

Though Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin struck a conciliatory note saying the U.S. looked forward to working with Mr. Katz, Mr. Gallant, who has held more than 100 phone calls with Mr. Austin since the start of the Gaza war, had been perceived as a moderate figure. Having realised the disproportionate nature of Israel's response to Hamas's October 7 attack – that has so far claimed more than 43,000 Palestinian lives – Washington changed its stance recently and had begun calling for a measured approach, asking Israel to increase the flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza. Mr. Gallant, in his response, cited three reasons for his ouster. He believed a deal was possible with Hamas which would see the release of all hostages held in captivity; he remained steadfast on his demand for the military conscription of ultra-Orthodox Jews; and he also wanted an enquiry looking into the security failures that made Hamas's October 7 attacks possible.

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR

He had also sought clarity on post-war plans for Gaza; brushed aside military rule over the enclave; and dismissed Mr. Netanyahu's ambitions of a complete victory over Hamas – all of which prompted the Prime Minister to appoint a pliable Mr. Katz to the post of Defence Minister.

The reshuffle also witnessed the induction of hard-liner Gideon Saar as Foreign Minister. The move presents Mr. Netanyahu with an opportunity to formally bring Mr. Saar's right-wing party into his government and bolster his coalition. The alignment of interests ensures an extra layer of political stability for the Likud leader.

Mr. Netanyahu's tenure, which began towards the end of 2022, had been marred by incidents before the Gaza war. One leader whom the Prime Minister invariably found at loggerheads with was Mr. Gallant. When military reservists threatened to quit services to protest against Mr. Netanyahu's proposed judicial reforms in 2023, Mr. Gallant adopted the popular voice by criticising the move, prompting his first termination.

Multi-front wars

The latest tiff came a week back when Mr. Gallant pushed to enlist ultra-Orthodox Jews into the military, threatening to destabilise Mr. Netanyahu's coalition that enjoys the crucial support of two parties from the group.

As Mr. Katz assumes leadership of the military, the country is fighting a war with Hamas in Gaza, battling Hezbollah in Lebanon and anticipating an Iranian response to Israel's attack of October 26.

The 69-year-old's only brush with the military comes in the form of a four-year stint as a paratrooper in 1973. He subsequently shifted to politics and first ran for the Knesset in 1992, managing to win a seat in the Israeli parliament in 1998. Since then, he has served on various committees and handled ministerial portfolios such as transport, energy, finance, agriculture, intelligence and foreign affairs.

Mr. Katz's posting as Agriculture Minister came under the scanner when police investigated him for fraud and breach of trust over political appointments made by him. But the investigation was closed by the then-Attorney General.

Mr. Katz echoes Netanyahu's sentiments on major policies. The former top diplomat played a major role in defunding the UN relief agency (UNRWA) and banning Secretary-General Antonio Guterres from Israel. He admires Donald Trump to the extent that he suggested naming a train station after the Republican leader when Mr. Trump, as President in 2017, recognised Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

In Mr. Katz, Mr. Netanyahu has found an ally who trumpets and parrots his thoughts. Whether that is enough to hold him in good stead as Defence Minister during such a tumultuous period is doubtful.

The Ice Maiden

Susie Wiles

As the first female Chief of Staff to the U.S. President, Trump's star-campaigner has her work cut out: run the office of an unpredictable President in an orderly manner

Joan Sony Cherian

"Tough, smart, innovative, and universally admired and respected" is how the 2024 president-elect and former President Donald Trump described his campaign manager and now Chief of Staff appointee Susan Summerall Wiles, more commonly known as Susie Wiles. Along with Chris LaCivita, an experienced Republican political strategist, Ms. Wiles ran one of the most successful, disciplined and effective electoral campaigns of Mr. Trump than the ones he led in 2016 and 2020.

The 67-year-old political lobbyist, considered quiet and unassuming, is feared and respected within and outside the party. Quite contrarily to other people close to Mr. Trump, the U.S's first female Chief of Staff keeps away from the limelight and prefers to 'work in the background'.

Her demeanour has earned her the epithet of 'Ice Maiden', a title even Mr. Trump used during his victory speech while congratulating her on her work on the presidential campaign.

Seasoned strategist

Ms. Wiles is a seasoned political strategist with her first major stint in electoral politics being with Ronald Reagan for his 1980 presidential bid.

Since then, Ms. Wiles has worked in the electoral campaigns of a wide range of Republican candidates – from moderate candidates such as former U.S. Ambassador to China Jon Huntsman Jr. (who criticised Mr. Trump after the capitol siege in 2021) to current Florida Governor Ron DeSantis.

ILLLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR

Early beginnings

Ms. Wiles met Mr. Trump in 2015 and became his campaign manager for the State of Florida during his 2016 presidential run. Following her success there, Ms. Wiles also headed the successful gubernatorial campaign of Mr. DeSantis to Florida in 2018.

However, a falling out between the Governor and Ms. Wiles led to him dismissing her when he assumed power and actively sabotaging her relationship with Mr. Trump who then dropped Ms. Wiles from his campaign during his 2020 presidential run.

Ms. Wiles later used her knowledge of working with the Governor against him when he ran against Mr. Trump for the 2024 Republican nomination for President.

Her successful strategy for Mr. Trump made Mr. DeSantis look out of touch and lacking personal charisma.

Rocky road ahead

The Chief of Staff of the White House is the head of the U.S. President's Executive Office. They act as the President's confidante, advising him on key policy matters while also overseeing staff appointments to the executive office, directing and managing the flow of information between different offices of the President, and most importantly regulating access to the President (that is, deciding on who is or is not allowed an audience with the U.S. President).

Ms. Wiles apparently was very keen on the last point. According to *CNN*, she had told Mr. Trump that she would only take on the role if she was given power to control access to him in the Oval Office.

Being the Chief of Staff, Ms. Wiles will have her work cut out. Between 2017 and 2021, President Trump went through four different Chiefs of Staff. His brazen, crude and unpredictable nature has made him difficult to work with. Moreover, his refusal to be 'controlled', or worse, reprimanded has led to sour relations with a lot of his staff over the years such as his former political strategist Steve Bannon and former communications head Anthony Scaramucci.

Out of his Chiefs of Staff, his second appointee in 2017, John Kelly has been one of his most vocal critics. Mr. Kelly, who had a military background and was seen as politically neutral, was brought in to bring more order to a very chaotic President's office in 2017.

However, Mr. Trump's aversion to the restrictions Mr. Kelly put on his office brought things to a head and he left the position after almost a year-and-a-half. He has since gone on record to state that "Mr. Trump met the definition of a fascist, would govern like a dictator if allowed, and had no understanding of the Constitution or the concept of rule of law."

However, Susie Wiles, whose father is Pat Summerall, an NFL player and later sports broadcaster, has worked with Mr. Trump since 2016 and is yet to fall out of favour with him. Her steely disposition has earned her the former President's trust.

But while she is a seasoned lobbyist, her lack of experience holding government office might work against her. It remains to be seen whether Ms. Wiles will be the one who can finally 'tame the shrew'.

BEIJING

China's Xi hails 'new chapter' in relations with Indonesia President

AFP

Chinese President Xi Jinping told his Indonesian counterpart that Beijing hopes for a "new chapter" in bilateral relations, as the two leaders met on Saturday. Mr. Xi held talks with President Prabowo Subianto in Beijing, the first stop of the Indonesian leader's inaugural foreign tour since he took office in October. AFP

KYIV

Russia open to hearing Trump's proposals for ending Ukraine war

AFP

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said Moscow is open to hearing President-elect Donald Trump's proposals on ending the war, as the EU foreign policy chief held talks in Kyiv on support for Ukraine. Mr. Ryabkov said Moscow and Washington were "exchanging signals" on Ukraine via "closed channels." AP

LA PAZ

Bolivia court ruling bars former leader Morales from presidency

AFP

Bolivia's constitutional court has barred former leader Evo Morales from standing for re-election next year, after reaffirming that a President cannot serve more than two terms. In a ruling made public on Friday, the court said the mandate of an elected official is "only for two periods, whether consecutive or not." AFP

CAMARILLO

Over 130 homes lost in California wildfire as winds drop speed

AP

Firefighters grappling with a blaze that destroyed 130 homes in California said Friday they had made progress in their fight as a turn in the weather offered a break. Hurricane-strength winds this week fueled an explosion in the Mountain Fire near Camarillo, outside Los Angeles, which grew rapidly to over 20,000 acres. AFP

At least 14 Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes in Gaza

Agence France-Presse
GAZA STRIP

Gaza's civil defence agency said on Saturday that Israeli air strikes killed at least 14 Palestinians overnight, including women and children.

An air strike hit tents housing displaced Palestinians in the southern area of Khan Younis, killing at least nine persons, including children and women.

A second air strike killed five persons, including children, and injured about 22 when "Israeli warplanes hit Fahad Al-Sabah school", which had been turned into a shelter for "thousands of displaced people" in the Al-Tuffah district of Gaza City.

Famine looming in northern Gaza, says UN-backed report

The number of people in Gaza facing 'catastrophic' food insecurity would reach 3,45,000 or 16% of the population between November and April 2025, according to the Famine Review Committee

Agence France-Presse
ROME

Famine is looming in the northern Gaza Strip amid increased hostilities and a near-halt in food aid, a UN-backed assessment said on Saturday.

The alert from the Famine Review Committee warned of "an imminent and substantial likelihood of famine occurring, due to the rapidly deteriorating situation in the Gaza Strip."

"Famine thresholds may have already been crossed or else will be in the near future," the alert said. On October 17, the body projected that the number of people in Gaza facing "catastrophic" food insecurity between November and April 2025 would reach 3,45,000, or 16% of the population.

Mounting misery: Officials flagged a collapse of food systems, drop in aid and critical water and sanitation conditions. AP

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report classified that as IPC Phase 5 – a situation when "starvation, death, destitution and extremely critical acute malnutrition levels are evident."

Collapse of system

Since that report, conditions have worsened in the north of Gaza, with a collapse of food systems, a drop in humanitarian aid and critical water, sanitation and hygiene conditions, the committee said. "It can therefore be assumed that starvation, malnutrition, and excess mortality due to malnutrition and disease, are rapidly increasing in these areas," it read.

Dutch government probing missed warnings from Israel

Reuters
AMSTERDAM

The Dutch government is investigating if possible warning signs from Israel were missed in the events leading up to this week's assaults on Israeli soccer fans, Justice Minister David van Weel said in a letter to parliament.

"An investigation is still being conducted on possible warning signs from Israel", Mr. Van Weel said in his letter late on Friday evening.

At least five persons were injured during the assaults on Thursday night and treated in hospital. All were released later on Friday. The incident concerned fans of the visiting Maccabi Tel Aviv soccer team. The police on Saturday said that among the 63 people initially detained, four persons remained in custody.

Mr. Van Weel said the investigation would also examine whether the assaults were organised, with an antisemitic motive.

Political leaders have already denounced the attacks as antisemitic. Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof said on Friday he was "horrified by the anti-Semitic attacks on Israeli citizens" and had assured Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by phone that "the perpetrators will be identified and prosecuted".

Wary state: Police officers secure the area near the Dam Square in Amsterdam in the Netherlands on Saturday. AFP

'Afghanistan women are not barred from talking to each other'

Agence France-Presse
KABUL

Women in Afghanistan are not forbidden from speaking to each other, the Taliban government's Morality Ministry said on Saturday, denying recent media reports of a ban.

Afghan media based outside the country and international outlets have in recent weeks reported a ban on women hearing other women's voices, based on an audio recording of the head of the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice (PVPV), Mohammad Khalid Hanafi, about rules of prayer.

PVPV spokesman Saiful Islam Khyber said the reports were "brainless" and "illogical".

"A woman can talk to another woman, women need to interact with one another in society, women do have their needs," he said.

He added, however, that there were exceptions according to Islamic law, such as those described by Hanafi that women should use hand gestures instead of raising their voices to communicate with other women while praying.

Bangladesh's interim govt. says it won't allow 'fascist' Awami League to hold rally

Press Trust of India
DHAKA

Terming Awami League as "fascist", Bangladesh's interim government on Saturday said it will not permit deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's party to hold Sunday's planned rally.

Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus's press secretary Shafiqul Alam in a Facebook post said that the interim government will not tolerate any violence or any attempt to break the law and order situation in the country.

"The Awami League in its current form is a fascist party. There is no way this fascist party will be allowed to hold protests in Bangladesh," he said.

Dormant force: Awami League had asked supporters to gather in Gulistan on Sunday to protest what they described as 'misrule'. AP

Mr. Alam further cautioned that "anyone who would try to hold rally, gathering and processions by taking orders from the mass murderer and dictator Sheikh Hasina will face full force of the law enforcing agencies".

Mr. Alam's statement followed a call from the Awami League on Facebook, urging supporters to gather at Shaheed Noor Hossain Chattar, or Zero Point, in Gulistan on Sunday to protest what they described as "misrule."

'Rights denied'

"Our protest is against the deprivation of the rights of the people of the country; our protest is against the rise of fundamentalist forces; our protest is against the conspiracy to disrupt the lives of the common people," read the Facebook post.

Canada ends fast-track visa programme for international students

Press Trust of India
OTTAWA

Canada has ended with immediate effect the popular fast track study visa programme, SDS, a major policy decision that is likely to impact scores of international students, including from India.

The processing time for students applying under the Student Direct Stream (SDS) was significantly shorter and approval rates higher, something that will change after Canada ended the scheme on Friday.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in September had said on X: "We're granting 35% fewer international student permits this year. And next year, that number's going down by another 10%."

Bad actors

"Immigration is an advantage for our economy – but when bad actors abuse the system and take advantage of students, we crack down," he added as the Canadian government said it was looking to reduce the number of temporary residents. The move comes amid the ongoing diplomatic row between India and Canada.

Sport

Zelezny will be my new coach: Neeraj

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Just days after he penned a heartfelt note of thanks to long-time coach Klaus Bartonietz, Neeraj Chopra on Saturday officially confirmed joining hands with Czech javelin legend Jan Zelezny as his new coach to train with.

Neeraj will be part of Zelezny's training group, the Czech Athletics Federation confirmed, with the two formally meeting during the annual year-ending training camp at Potchefstroom later this year. Zelezny's salary will be funded by the Sports Ministry. The association will be for two years, starting 2025.

Zelezny. FILE PHOTO

"Growing up, I admired Jan's technique and spent a lot of time watching his videos. I believe working with him will be invaluable because our throwing styles are similar and his knowledge is unmatched. It's an honour to have Jan by my side," Neeraj said in a statement.

Philosophy clinches the Bengaluru City Police Cup

RACING

BENGALURU: S. Padmanabhan-trained Philosophy (S. Saqlain up) won the Bengaluru City Police Cup (1,400m), the main event of the races held here on Saturday (Nov. 9). The winner is owned by Mr. P.J. Vazifdar, Mrs. P.J. Vazifdar, Mr. M. Rishad & Mr. Kersi H. Vachha. Jockey Trevor won three races on the day.

THE RESULTS:

1. GOMOS PLATE (1,400m): **RODNEY** (L.A. Rozario) 1, Rock Bank (G. Vivek) 2, Magnetic (Sandesh) 3 and Napolean (Akshay K) 4. 4, 3 and Nk. 1m 24.09s. ₹53 (w), 17, 22 and 12 (p), SHP: 65, THP: 53, FP: 828, Q: 255, Trinella: 1,396, Exacta: 7,715. Favourite: Magnetic. Owners: M/s. Rapar Galloping Stars LLP rep. by Mr. Rajendran & Mr. Francis Arun Kumar. Trainer: Irfan Ghatala.

2. MOUNT JOY PLATE (1,200m): **SPRINGSTEEN** (Antony) 1, Chiraag (Afsar) 2, Emeraldo (G. Praveen) 3 and Sacred Creator (Faiz) 4. 1, 1-1/4 and 3-3/4. 1m 14.93s. ₹41 (w), 21, 10 and 36 (p), SHP: 42, THP: 81, FP: 126, Q: 52, Trinella: 803, Exacta: 2,887. Favourite: Chiraag. Owner: Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Arjun Mangalorkar.

3. JOG FALLS PLATE (Div. II), (1,400m): **IRON KING** (Trevor) 1, Cascais (Sandesh) 2, Magical Bay (G. Vivek) 3 and Pericles (Akshay K) 4. 2-1/4, 5-1/2 and 1-1/2. 1m 25.60s. ₹69 (w), 12, 15 and 17 (p), SHP: 41, THP: 35, FP: 557, Q: 159, Trinella: 1,683, Exacta: 2,732. Favourite: Pericles. Owner: Mr. Roopesh S. Trainer: Azhar Ali.

4. UDUPI PLATE (1,200m): **ROMAN SPIRIT** (Trevor) 1, Blue God (Antony) 2, Mazal Tov (Akshay K) 3 and Indian Blues (Faiz) 4. 1, 1-3/4 and 1-1/2. 1m 12.54s. ₹65 (w), 17, 10 and 14 (p), SHP: 31, THP: 41, FP: 198, Q: 45, Trinella: 265, Exacta: 4,841. Favourite: Blue God. Owner: Dr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: S. Dominic.

5. T.B. HANUMANTHARAJ MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m): **AQUASTIC** (Akshay K) 1, Bharat (G. Vivek) 2, Elfin Knight (Trevor) 3 and Crimson Flame (C. Umesh) 4. 2-1/2, 1-3/4 and 1-1/4. 1m 24.39s. ₹38 (w), 12, 19 and 12 (p), SHP: 54, THP: 73, FP: 179, Q: 93, Trinella: 247, Exacta: 2,048. Favourite: Elfin Knight. Owner: Mr. S. Pathy. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.

6. BENGALURU CITY POLICE CUP (1,400m): **PHILOSOPHY** (S. Saqlain) 1, Aralina (Antony) 2, Elpenor (Trevor) 3 and Golden Time (L.A. Rozario) 4. 1/2, 1 and 4-1/4. 1m 24.70s. ₹20 (w), 11 and 14 (p), SHP: 28, THP: 27, FP: 42, Q: 22, Trinella: 44, Exacta: 94. Favourite: Philosophy. Owners: Mr. P.J. Vazifdar, Mrs. P.J. Vazifdar, Mr. M. Rishad & Mr. Kersi H. Vachha. Trainer: S. Padmanabhan.

7. MALAPRABHA PLATE (1,200m): **ISABELLE** (L.A. Rozario) 1, Brave Majesty (Sandesh) 2, Divo (C. Umesh) 3 and Ebotse (Antony) 4. 3/4, 2 and 3/4. 1m 13.28s. ₹62 (w), 16, 12 and 21 (p), SHP: 35, THP: 67, FP: 226, Q: 64, Trinella: 1,130, Exacta: 3,169. Favourite: Brave Majesty. Owner: Mr. S. Pathy. Trainer: Irfan Ghatala.

8. JOG FALLS PLATE (Div. I), (1,400m): **CORINTHIAN** (Trevor) 1, Lone Ranger (Antony) 2, Treasure Chest (Tousif) 3 and Storm Shadow (R. Robert) 4. Not run: Stravinsky. 1-3/4, 2 and Lnk. 1m 25.64s. ₹28 (w), 12, 15 and 52 (p), SHP: 38, THP: 107, FP: 85, Q: 70, Trinella: 1,998, Exacta: 5,801. Favourite: Liv In The Mist. Owner: Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.

Jackpot: ₹5,539 (53 tkts); Runner-up: 953 (132 tkts); Treble (i): 1,190 (eight tkts); (ii): 224 (89 tkts).

Baisa should make amends in feature

HYDERABAD: The six-year-old mare Baisa, who finished third in her last start, should make amends in the Telangana Cup (Div. I), the main event of the opening day's races of the Hyderabad Winter Races 2024-25 to be held here on Sunday (Nov. 10).

1 SRISAILAM PLATE (1,100m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 1.15 p.m.: 1. Glorious Power (7) Md. Ekram 60, 2. Sangreal (1) Ajay K 59, 3. Calista Girl (4) Gaurav 57.5, 4. Star Forever (8) P. Sai K 56, 5. One N Only (5) Kuldeep Sr. 55.5, 6. Exclusive Black (3) Md. Ismail 53.5, 7. Caraxes (6) Surya Prakash 53, 8. Fara (2) G. Naresh 53 and 9. Colt Pistol (9) Santosh Raj 52.

1. ONE N ONLY, 2. EXCLUSIVE BLACK, 3. GLORIOUS POWER

2 BEGINNERS PLATE (1,100m) (terms), Maiden, 2-y-o only (Cat. II) – 1.50: 1. Gold Giver (6) Afroz K 56, 2. Home Run (1) Akshay K 56, 3. American Affair (2) P. Sai K 54.5, 4. Ashwa Changez (5) Gaurav 54.5, 5. Blue Candy (3) R.S. Jodha 54.5 and 6. Zuza (4) Ashad Asbar 54.5.

1. HOME RUN, 2. GOLD GIVER

3 TENACITY PLATE (1,600m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 2.25: 1. Skyward (5) Gaurav 60, 2. Mountain Touch (6) Ashad Asbar 59, 3. Vital Sign (3) B.R. Kumar 58, 4. Das (2) P. Ajeeth K 57, 5. Grey Sky (4) Md. Ekram 56, 6. Jet Falcon (7) B. Nikhil 56 and 7. Blue Pantheress (1) Santosh Raj 54.5.

1. VITAL SIGN, 2. GREY SKY, 3. MOUNTAIN TOUCH

4 TELANGANA CUP (Div. II) (1,200m), 3-y-o and upward rated 60 to 85 (Cat. II) – 3.00: 1. The Thunder (2) Akshay K 60, 2. Strauss (7) B. Nikhil 57.5, 3. Adbhut (6) Afroz K 55.5, 4. Encore (3) R.S. Jodha 55.5, 5. D Minchu (5) P. Ajeeth K 55, 6. Ragnarok (4) Kuldeep Sr. 53.5, 7. Juramento (1) B.R. Kumar 53 and 8. Blissful (8) Surya Prakash 52.

1. THE THUNDER, 2. JURAMENTO, 3. RAGNAROK

5 AMARNATH GUPTA MEMORIAL CUP (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 3.35: 1. Tripurari (12) Kuldeep Jr. 60, 2. Golden Gazelle (11) Akshay K 57.5, 3. True Icon (4) P. Ajeeth K 57.5, 4. Role Model (6) R.S. Jodha 56, 5. Ampere's Touch (10) Santosh Raj 54, 6. Assured Success (9) Ajay K 53.5, 7. Happy Soul (7) Surya Prakash 53.5, 8. Wind Sprite (5) Gaurav 53, 9. Final Judgement (8) Ashad Asbar 52.5, 10. Windsor (1) Afroz K 52.5, 11. Crimson Rose (3) Abhay Singh 51.5 and 12. Cosmico (2) B. Nikhil 50.

1. ASSURED SUCCESS, 2. GOLDEN GAZELLE, 3. FINAL JUDGEMENT

6 TELANGANA CUP (Div. I) (1,200m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 60 to 85 (Cat. II) – 4.10: 1. Best Buddy (4) Md. Ekram 60, 2. Berrettini (9) P. Sai K 57.5, 3. She Can (1) B.R. Kumar 56, 4. Baisa (3) Akshay K 55, 5. Minecraft (2) Mukesh 54.5, 6. Gretsy (6) Kuldeep Sr. 54, 7. High Reward (8) R.S. Jodha 54, 8. Kenaf (7) Afroz K 51.5 and 9. Miss Little Angel (5) Santosh Raj 51.5.

1. BAISA, 2. MINECRAFT, 3. GRETSY

7 ARMAGNAC PLATE (1,200m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 4.45: 1. Exclusive Luck (13) Md. Ismail 61, 2. Gloria (1) Ashad Asbar 59, 3. High Heels (6) B.R. Kumar 59, 4. Pancho (5) B. Nikhil 58.5, 5. Classy Dame (12) R.S. Jodha 58, 6. Silver Lining (3) Afroz K 56.5, 7. City Cruise (8) Abhay Singh 56, 8. Balahaka (11) G. Naresh 54.5, 9. Lego (10) Kuldeep Sr. 53, 10. Reining Queen (14) P. Ajeeth K 53, 11. D Extreme (2) Surya Prakash 52.5, 12. My Challenge (7) Akshay K 52.5, 13. Talking Stick (9) Santosh Raj 52.5 and 14. Arba Wahed Arba (4) Kuldeep Jr. 50.

1. HIGH HEELS, 2. GLORIA, 3. PANCHO

Day's best: BAISA.
Jackpot: 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7.
Mini Jackpot: (i) 1, 2, 3 & 4, (ii) 4, 5, 6 & 7.
Treble: (i) 2, 3 & 4, (ii) 5, 6 & 7.
Tanala : All races.

HIGH PRAISE

Varun has improved by leaps and bounds, says Boucher

AP

Mark Boucher lauded Varun Chakaravarthy's performance in the first T20I against South Africa in Durban. "Varun Chakaravarthy has come on leaps and bounds. The way that he bowled tonight with Bishnoi, what a great partnership that the two of them had in the middle of there," said Boucher.

CLASS TO THE FORE

Ponting backs Kohli to turn fortunes around in Australia series

AFP

Virat Kohli should not be judged based on his current form and that he could make a powerful statement during the Border-Gavaskar series given his class, said Ricky Ponting. "If there's a time for him to turn it around, it'd be this series. So, I wouldn't be surprised to see Virat make runs in the first game," Ponting told ICC.

GUIDING FORCE

Asalanka takes Lanka home after spinners restrict New Zealand

AP

The Sri Lankan spinners clipped the New Zealand batters on a turning pitch as the hosts won a low-scoring first T20I by four wickets in Dambulla on Saturday. **The scores:** New Zealand 135 in 19.3 overs (Wellalage 3/20) lost to Sri Lanka 140/6 in 19 overs (Asalanka 35 n.o., Foulkes 3/20). **Toss:** NZ; **PoM:** Asalanka.

GAME-CHANGERS

Sehrawat and Malik script exciting win for Titans over Paltan

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A dramatic climax saw Telugu Titans finish its Hyderabad leg with a 34-33 win over Puneri Paltan on Saturday. Titans' fourth successive victory in PKL-11 was fashioned by skipper Pawan Sehrawat (12 points) and Vijay Malik (13). Bengal Warriorz proved too strong for Bengaluru Bulls in the other match, winning 40-29.

Top class: Harmanpreet and Sreejesh received the recognition during the 49th FIH Statutory Congress. FILE PHOTO

Harmanpreet and Sreejesh bag honours

Press Trust of India
LAUSANNE (SWITZERLAND)

Indian men's hockey team captain Harmanpreet Singh and P.R. Sreejesh won the FIH Player of the Year and Goalkeeper of the Year Awards for the year 2024.

Both Harmanpreet and Sreejesh received the recognition during the 49th FIH Statutory Congress in Oman on Friday.

"I would like to thank FIH for this great honour. After the Olympics, it was so great to go back home and have such huge crowds there to greet us and welcome us. It was a very very special feeling. I would like to mention my teammates, none of this would have been possible without you all," Harmanpreet said.

Sreejesh said: "I am so happy today. Thank you for this last playing honour of my career. As most people know, Paris 2024 was the last tournament I played for my country and I just want to thank Hockey India for all the support and guidance offered over all the years I have played the sport."

The other winners were: Yibbi Jansen (Netherlands, Women's Player of the Year), Ye Jiao of China (Women's Goalkeeper of the Year), Pakistan's Sufyan Khan (Men's Rising Star of the Year), Zoe Diaz of Argentina (Women's Rising Star of the Year), Jeroen Delmee of Netherlands (Men's Coach of the Year), and Alyson Annan (Women's Coach of the Year), Steve Rogers of Australia (Men's Umpire of the Year) and Sarah Wilson of Scotland (Women's Umpire of the Year).

Men in Blue will be keen on continuing their dominance

The T20 World Cup champion has won the last two matches against the Proteas and will be confident going into the second T20I; the host faces an uphill battle against Suryakumar & Co.

INDIA IN SA

Press Trust of India
GQEBERHA

Sanju Samson will look to continue his domination of the bowlers as India aims to extend its winning run when it faces South Africa in the second T20I at St. George's Park here on Sunday.

While the team management is unlikely to make changes to the playing XI, it will be disappointed with Abhishek Sharma's continued failure, especially as India looks for a second-line opening option after Yashasvi Jaiswal.

India's middle-order, which looked solid on paper, struggled to build partnerships as it lost six wickets for just 36 runs.

In the bowling department, India was clinical as it restricted South Africa to just 141 in 17.5 overs in the opener. Varun Chakaravarthy continued his excellent form from the Bangladesh series with a brilliant three-wicket haul, while Ravi Bishnoi was equally impressive.

On song: Varun & Co. had South Africa dancing to their tunes in the first match. GETTY IMAGES

India's pace duo of Arshdeep Singh and Avesh Khan also played their part. With the bowling attack firing on all cylinders.

For South Africa, the loss was a hard blow, marking its second consecutive defeat to India after its loss in the T20 World Cup final in June. With key players such as Quinton de Kock, Kagiso Rabada, Anrich Nortje, and Tabraiz Shamsi all missing from the squad, the Proteas are already struggling without some of their most experienced campaigners.

The absence of these senior players will make the second T20I an uphill battle for South Africa, particularly with their recent form.

The teams (from): India: Suryakumar Yadav (Capt.), Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson (wk), Rinku Singh, Tilak Varma, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Ramandeep Singh, Varun Chakaravarthy, Ravi Bishnoi, Arshdeep Singh, Vijaykumar Vyshak, Avesh Khan, Yash Dayal.

South Africa: Aiden Markram (Capt.), Ottneil Baartman, Gerald Coetzee, Donovan Ferreira, Reeza Hendricks, Marco Jansen, Heinrich Klaasen, Patrick Kruger, Keshav Maharaj, David Miller, Mihlali Mpongwana, Nqaba Peter, Ryan Rickelton, Andile Simelane, Lutho Sipamla (3rd and 4th T20Is), Tristan Stubbs.

Match starts at 7:30 p.m. IST.

Jurel stands tall but India-A falls again

Press Trust of India
MELBOURNE

Wicketkeeper-batter Dhruv Jurel built a strong case for a possible Test eleven inclusion with his second successive fifty but it was not enough to prevent India-A from going down to Australia-A by six wickets on the third day of the second and final unofficial 'Test' here on Saturday.

With this defeat, India-A lost the two-match series 0-2.

Resuming from overnight 73 for five, Jurelonce again stood tall amid the ruins with a patient 68 off 122 balls during which he hit five boundaries.

Off-spinner Corey Rocchiccioli (four for 74) turned out to be the star performer for Australia-A in India's second innings.

Chasing the modest total, Australia-A witnessed an early collapse with pacer Prasidh (two for 37)dismissing Marcus Harris and Cameron Bancroft off consecutive deliveries in the opening over, raising the visions of an unlikely comeback.

But Sam Kontas stood firm on one end with a fine unbeaten 73 off 128 balls and ensured Australia-A clinched the win.

The scores:
India-A 161 & 229 in 77.5 overs (Jurel 68, Webster 3/49, Rocchiccioli 4/74) lost to Australia-A 223 & 169/4 in 47.5 overs (Kontas 73 n.o., Webster 46 n.o.).

In vain: Jurel's fighting knock of 68 was not enough. AFP

Purple patch: Vinicius scored his second hat-trick in four games. AFP

Vinicius' trick does the job for Real

EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
MADRID

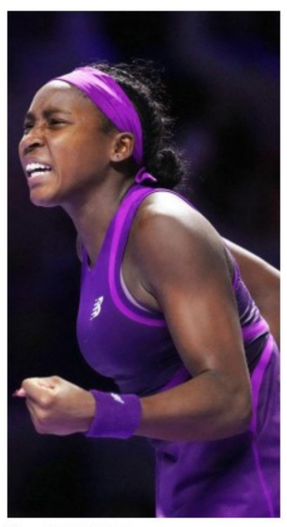
Real Madrid forward Vinicius Jr scored a hat-trick to help the LaLiga champion snap a two-game winless run in all competitions with a commanding 4-0 victory over Osasuna on Saturday.

The Brazilian forward after taking a Jude Bellingham pass in his stride to beat the offside trap and firing an unstoppable strike past goalkeeper Sergio Herrera.

Bellingham recovered his scoring instinct by netting his first goal of the season with a brilliant finish eight minutes later, lobbing the ball over the goalkeeper. Real's stand-in right back Lucas Vazquez was also forced off but Vinicius extended the lead with a great goal in the 61st minute.

Eight minutes later, Diaz stole the ball from a distracted defender and put it on a plate for Vinicius to fire home.

Important results: Premier League: Brentford 3 (Wissa 27, 58, Damsgaard 50) bt Bournemouth 2 (Evanilson 17, Kluivert 49); Crystal Palace 0 lost to Fulham 2 (Smith Rowe 45+2, Wilson 83); West Ham 0 drew with Everton 0; Wolves 2 (Sarabia 2, Cunha 51) bt Southampton 0.
LaLiga: Real Madrid 4 (Vinicius 34, 61, 69, Bellingham 42) bt Osasuna 0; Rayo Vallecano 1 (McKenna 90+2-og) lost to Las Palmas 3 (Silva 6, Aridane 62-og, Fuster 66).
Bundesliga: Mainz 3 (Lee 36, Burkardt 45+3, Nebel 54) lost to Borussia Dortmund 1 (Guirassy 40-pen).



Gauff. REUTERS

Gauff fights past Zheng to win WTA Finals

Associated Press
RIYADH

Coco Gauff beat China's Zheng Qinwen 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2) to win WTA Finals title on Saturday in Riyadh.

The 20-year-old Gauff took the second biggest singles title of her career, pulling off an incredible win after being a set down to overcome Zheng in a 3 hours and four minutes marathon. The World No. 3 became the youngest WTA Finals champion since Maria Sharapova, who took the crown as a 17-year-old in 2004.

The result:
Gauff bt Zheng 3-6, 6-4, 7-6(2).

Gukesh smart enough not to take favourite tag seriously: Vishnu

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

Gukesh has been in fine form, making him the experts' and even some players' favourite to win the upcoming World Championship match. So much so, even his opponent, reigning World champion Ding Liren, has talked up Gukesh, downplaying himself.

Asked if this popular opinion might affect Gukesh, his coach Vishnu Prasanna, during a visit to the ongoing Chennai Grandmasters classical chess tournament on Friday, said: "I'm sure Gukesh is smart enough not to take that too seriously. I don't think Gukesh considers himself a favourite. And even if he does, you start from 0-0, I guess. Whatever has happened so far, does not have a real impact.

"So, his (Ding's) bad form so far does not matter so much. I'm sure he has worked on himself over the past few months. So, yes, it will be an interesting match, I'm sure.

"I mean right after Gukesh won the Candidates also, there was a discussion that he was the favourite. But I kind of talked against it. I would still say that it's pretty even on that day.

"If Ding's bad form continues, probably Gukesh is going to do well. But it's very unlikely that you are not motivated to play the World Championship (well). You are mostly at your best yet, probably. It would be very hard to believe that you would approach an open and the World Championship with the same kind of motivation. So, I'm sure it will be a tough challenge."

Gukesh. FILE PHOTO: M. VEDHAN

> I would still say that it's pretty even on that day. If Ding's bad form continues, probably Gukesh is going to do well

Aronian claims solitary win on a day of draws

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

Levon Aronian (US) secured the only win of the day in the Masters section, as he beat Frenchman Maxime Vachier-Lagrave in the fifth round of the second edition of the Chennai Grandmasters classical chess tournament at the Anna Centenary Library auditorium here on Saturday.

"I think it was a good game. Maybe, I didn't play precisely early on. But then, from the position that I got I think I played good moves," said Aronian after the win.

"It wasn't good. I made a very big mistake and it was very difficult to defend," said Vachier-Lagrave.

Serbia's Alexey Sarana, who drew with Aravindh Chithambaram, said he had an off day.

"I was a bit tired today. I didn't play a very convincing game. I wasn't better at any moment in this game and was just worse," said Sarana.

Top Indians Arjun Erigaisi and Vidit Gujrathi drew with Iranians Parham Maghsoodloo and Amin Tabatabaei.

In the Challengers section, V. Pranav's four-game winning streak ended as he drew with Raunak Sadhwani. R. Vaishali too drew with D. Harika.

"After a point, we couldn't find a way to improve and repeated the moves. But I think at some point, I was better," said Vaishali.

On her overall performance so far, she said: "It could've been much better. I'm not very happy with the way I've played."

Only Karthikeyan Murali emerged victorious, versus Abhimanyu Puranik, on the day.

Arjun Erigaisi (4) in the Masters and V. Pranav (4.5) in the Challengers continue to be in the sole lead.

Course correction: Aronian, *in pic,* upped the ante midway to end up winning against Lagrave. R. RAVINDRAN

The results (fifth round, Indians unless mentioned):
Masters: Vidit Gujrathi (1.5) drew with Amin Tabatabaei (Irn, 3); Levon Aronian (US, 3.5) bt Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra, 2); Alexey Sarana (Ser, 1.5) drew with Aravindh Chithambaram (2.5); Arjun Erigaisi drew (4) with Parham Maghsoodloo (Irn, 2).
Challengers: M. Pranesh (2.5) drew with Leon Luke Mendonca (3.5); V. Pranav (4.5) drew with Raunak Sadhwani (3); D. Harika (1) drew with R. Vaishali (1); Abhimanyu Puranik (2) lost to Karthikeyan Murali (2.5).

Rathore lays out developmental plan for sports in Rajasthan

Delivering the keynote address at the *Sportstar* Jaipur Conclave, state sports minister Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore says Rajasthan will launch mega talent hunt ahead of 2036 Olympics with an eye on bumping the state's medal contribution

Sports Bureau
JAIPUR

Focus points: Rathore highlighted the need to look for physical ability, mental ability, and willpower in sportspersons. R.V. MOORTHY

Olympic silver medallist and Rajasthan's Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, laid out an extensive plan for the development of sport in the State during the *Sportstar* Sports Conclave – Focus Rajasthan – at the Poornima University here on Saturday.

"India has officially applied to host the 2036 Olympics, and I am sure we will get it. As preparation for the next 12 years, in Rajasthan, for the next one year, we will conduct a mega talent hunt for children aged between 10 and 14. In India, all the athletes who come to the forefront do so because of their skills. But the physical part of the talent is neglected, and only the skill part of the talent is highlighted. But skill can only take you so far. Physical ability, mental ability, and willpower are of utmost importance to bridge the gap between being one of the athletes and being a champion," Rathore said while delivering the keynote address.

"With the help of the Government of Rajasthan, -we want to set up some centres of excellence with some top corporates who have their hearts in the right place. They will provide international-level facilities and guidance. In the next four years, we will have one stadium in every district for sure. Our ambition is even higher: one stadium in every *tehsil* of Rajasthan. We will create 50 stadiums per year. We will also start Khelo Rajasthan from this year, along the same lines as Khelo India. We will also have our own version of TOPS [Target Olympic Podium Scheme]. The best athletes will be supported by us. We have formed a new policy for sports, and we have formed a new youth policy as well," Rathore said.

The *Sportstar* Sports Conclave – Focus Rajasthan – is powered by Poornima University, with Indian Oil, SBI, and Pratiyogita Darpan as associate partners, Great SportsTech as the Sports Technology Partner, KPMG as Knowledge Partner, and SSpark as the Media Partner.

With nothing to lose, India will be a dangerous side now, says Ajay Jadeja

Sports Bureau
JAIPUR

Familiar foe: Ajay Jadeja says the current crop of Indian players have more experience of touring Australia. R.V. MOORTHY

Ajay Jadeja described India's 0-3 home series loss to New Zealand as a "wake-up call" but expressed confidence in its ability to bounce back and win the upcoming Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia. Speaking at *the Sportstar Sports Conclave* in Rajasthan, Jadeja said, "You need a wake-up call sometimes. We won the (T20) World Cup this year, we're the best team, with the best captain, but suddenly Rohit Sharma is criticised for not moving well. I feel for him."

No WTC final

Jadeja, emphasising India's edge, said: "We may not reach the World Test Championship final, but I believe we can secure the series win.

"Our team has more experience from multiple tours Down Under, unlike earlier eras when players only visited every eight years.

"Now, with nothing to lose, we'll be a dangerous side." Jadeja also praised Rishabh Pant's impactful role in the 2020/21 series win, calling him "freakish and brilliant."

Handle with care

However, he advised caution in handling Pant's unique style: "As long as he's playing, he'll be one of India's best. The challenge lies in not stifling his creativity. Once you try to control such players, their brilliance diminishes. It's a double-edged sword."

Jadeja also spoke on the mental strength required at the international level while highlighting Jasprit Bumrah's resilience.

Prime example

"At that stage, it's about training your mind, not just your body. Bumrah is a prime example; despite being advised to change his action as a teenager, he trusted his instincts and persevered.

"That belief, paired with mental toughness, is remarkable."

In our country, it's difficult to accept when women progress: Mona

Sports Bureau
JAIPUR

Candid moment: Manjusha, Surbhi, Anupam and Mona, right, with Suresh Balakrishna. R.V. MOORTHY

Paris Paralympics 2024 bronze-medallist shooter Mona Agarwal said social barriers continue to hold women back from excelling in sports.

"In our country, it is very difficult to accept when women progress. Despite the recognition, we set barriers for women.

"And these are tough to break from. Most do not manage to clear those hurdles. There can be more women playing," the 10m air rifle shooter in SH1 category said in a discussion moderated by the Chief Revenue Officer of *The Hindu Group*, Suresh Balakrishna.

Former squash international Surbhi Misra, who also runs the Surbhi Misra Foundation, underlined the need for dedicated funding in sports.

"When you try to take up too many sports, it does not work. The government cannot do everything. [For example], they give us ₹2 crore and want six medals in return.

"And if the success does not come, the funds go down next time. The players also say the same. It is us pushing them. Another problem then is to go to the grass-roots. We are looking at just 30-40 players, what about the next crop? We need to work on the next generation," Surbhi said.

The Corporate Social Responsibility Head of Hindustan Zinc, Anupam Nidhi threw light on India's spending potential in sport.

"₹ 25,000 crore is what we [Hindustan Zinc] invest in a year and just about one per cent is into CSR. ₹1600 crore is the market for sport in India, which is less seeing the kind of scope in the country," she said.

Former badminton player and DGM-Sports of Indian Oil Corporation Manjusha Kanwar said the company's focus on women's sport and para-sports has increased.

"I think over the last decade more focus has gone towards women. That is because of the medals won in the Olympics. If I take Indian Oil, I got equal priority as the men.

"We took in a women's hockey team which shows the company is dedicated to promoting women sports. We will go one step further with the para scholarships which will be 50 per cent each for men and women," Manjusha said.

India lacks the infrastructure to compete with leading equestrian nations, says Divyakriti

Flow of knowledge: Divyakriti, Divyansh, Rajat, Shagun, Ripu Daman and Jonathan during the Project Gold discussion. R.V. MOORTHY

Sports Bureau
JAIPUR

Divyakriti Singh Rathore, who won the gold at the 2023 Asian Games in the Dressage Team event, said that equestrian needed more support from the corporates and the government to develop adequate infrastructure in India.

"Rajasthan has the history, but India as a whole lacks the infrastructure at the moment for us to compete with leading equestrian nations.

"I had to move to Europe in 2020 and have been settled abroad for four years. I would love to do it from India and that is my ultimate aim," she said.

"It is an expensive sport and we need backing from the corporates, government. Madhya Pradesh, for example, acquired horses for them abroad.

Phenomenal

"They have already sent a team of six riders to Europe to train for 2028 Olympics. That is phenomenal and a great example to learn from," she added.

Speaking in a discussion titled 'Project Gold - Producing medal winners from Rajasthan', moderated by *Sportstar* assistant editor Jonathan Selvaraj, Shooter Shagun Chowdhary emphasised the need to improve the standards of coaching.

"Last year, there was an incident where a coach molested his students and it became a huge issue.

"The girl stopped coming to the range. Rajasthan has immense talent but if you don't support it with equipment and infrastructure, it goes to waste," Shagun the first Indian to participate in the Olympics in clay pigeon shooting, pointed out.

Dronacharya Awardee and Para coach Ripu Daman Singh highlighted the need for the government to expand its investment in infrastructure beyond the scope of the larger cities.

"From my small makeshift hostel, I have produced five Arjuna Awards, two Khel Ratna awards, two Padma Shree and one Padma Bhushan. until the athlete and the coach don't have a fire in their belly, they can't play sports," he said.

World champion in compound archery, Rajat Chauhan, urged the government to connect the youth at the grassroots to sports. Divyansh Singh Panwar, Asian Games gold medallist, highlighted the crucial role played by coaches and parents for an athlete, and said that he was looking to go beyond the weight of expectations.

Sports ecosystem now is much more attractive and profitable: Anil Kumar

Sports Bureau
JAIPUR

Lively conversation: Owens, Nasir, Anil, Dasgupta and Santadeep discuss the Sports industry powering economic growth. R.V. MOORTHY

The session on "Sports Industry Powering Rajasthan's Economic Growth" brought together key figures from various sectors, moderated by Prasanth S, Partner at *KPMG India*.

Hogne Hide, co-owner of *Norway Chess*, emphasised the transformative power of chess, especially in India, where the game is rapidly gaining popularity. "Chess has evolved into a global phenomenon, fascinating people with its rich history. It's exciting to see the youth in India increasingly engage with it," Hide remarked.

Rahul Singhi, Director of *Poornima University*, reflected on how sports help channel youthful energy, solving issues like aggression and negative behaviour. He added, "Sports became the perfect solution to channel that energy." He also revealed that *Poornima University* has invested approximately ₹2-2.5 crore in sports infrastructure and will soon offer new courses in sports management and sports sciences.

In another panel titled "Harnessing Science and Technology for Sports," moderated by *Sportstar*'s senior reporter Santadeep Dey, Anil Kumar, Founder and Managing Director of *Great SportsTech*, reflected on the growth of sports infrastructure in India.

"Over the past two to three decades, we've made significant progress. In the 1980s and 1990s, the private sector didn't view sports infrastructure as financially viable, but that has changed dramatically in the last 10-15 years. Today, there is significant investment in the sector, with both the private and public sectors contributing." He further noted, "In general, the sports ecosystem is now much more attractive and profitable."

Martin Owens, Head Coach at *Reliance Foundation* Youth Sport Odisha High Performance Centre, contrasted the approach to sports in India with that in the UK. "The big difference between Indian athletes and those in the UK is the passion," Owens said. "In the UK, most coaching is volunteer-based, driven by a love for the sport. In India, sports are often seen as a route to a job. The support provided to my athletes by the Odisha Government and Reliance is phenomenal. In the UK, you would have to be on the Olympic podium pathway to receive that level of support."

Showing appreciation

Feted: Archer Pranjal Tholiya received the Young Achiever Award while the Unsung Hero Award went to former athlete Sriram Singh. Both were given away by Col. Rathore in the presence of *Sportstar* Editor Ayon Sengupta . R.V. MOORTHY

INBRIEF

Nayudu Trophy: Yashvardhan smashes an unbeaten 426

Haryana batter Yashvardhan Dalal completed a historic quadruple century against Mumbai on the second day of their Col. C K Nayudu Trophy match in Sultanpur, Haryana, on Saturday. Yashvardhan, unbeaten on 426 (46x4, 12x6), set a new record for the highest individual score in the tournament's history, eclipsing Uttar Pradesh's Sameer Rizvi score of 312 in the previous edition. His monumental effort helped Haryana amass 732 for eight at stumps on the second day.

Palak, Aakash win silver in World University shooting

Asian Games gold medallist Palak Gulia was beaten to the women's air pistol gold by 0.3 points by Heng-Yu Liu of Chinese Taipei in the World University shooting championship in New Delhi on Saturday. Arshdeep Kaur pulled through for the bronze to maintain India's grip on the event. Aakash Bhardwaj won the men's air pistol silver, finishing behind qualification topper Pavel Schejbal of the Czech Republic. Samrat Rana and Amit Sharma also made the final, but couldn't climb to the podium.

The results: 10m air pistol: Men: 1. Pavel Schejbal (Cze) 239.8 (586); 2. Aakash Bhardwaj 238.8 (579); 3. Filip Wagner (Pol) 218.4 (574); 6. Amit Sharma 155.6 (576); 7. Samrat Rana 135.5 (577). **Women:** 1. Heng-Yu Liu (Tpe) 239.4 (578); 2. Palak Gulia 239.1 (573); 3. Arshdeep Kaur 219.0 (574); 6. Sainyam 156.4 (576).

Kiran George's Korea Masters run ends in the semifinal

India's Kiran George's impressive run at the Korea Masters badminton came to an end with a semifinal loss to Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the men's singles at Iksan City on Saturday. The 24-year-old, ranked 41st in the world, went down 12-21, 20-22 to the top seed and world No. 5 Vitidsarn in BWF World Tour Super 300 event.

Yamal doubtful for Barcelona ahead of Sociedad clash

Barcelona coach Hansi Flick said on Saturday he is unsure if teenage winger Lamine Yamal will be fit to start the LaLiga leaders' visit to face Real Sociedad on Sunday. The coach also said he thought playmaker Dani Olmo would be ready.

LIVE TELECAST

Australia vs Pakistan: 3rd ODI, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9 a.m.
Serie A: gxr.world, 5, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Monday)
LaLiga: gxr.world, 6.30, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
Sri Lanka vs New Zealand: 2nd T20I, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 p.m.
South Africa vs India: 2nd T20I, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 7.30 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 & 10 p.m.
ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 7.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m. onwards
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8, 10 p.m. & 12 a.m. (Monday)
West Indies vs England: 2nd T20I, FanCode, 1.30 a.m. (Monday)

Sudip's unbeaten ton, the silver-lining in stalemate

Saha's fifty quashes hopes of a comeback by the hosts; Smaran, Shreyas and Manish take their side to safety after a shaky start; Mayank puts the onus on the batters to iron out their flaws

RANJI TROPHY

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Bengal stepped off the gas to collect three points with a draw against Karnataka in their Elite-C Ranji Trophy encounter at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Saturday.

Bengal took no chances on the final day, batting beyond lunch to leave Karnataka with an impossible target of 364. Karnataka lost openers Mayank Agarwal and Kishan Bedare inside the first six overs, before R. Smaran (35 not out), Shreyas Gopal (32) and Manish Pandey (30 not out) took the home team to safe waters.

Karnataka, with nine points from four matches, slipped out of the top two in the Elite-C points table. Bengal is just below Karnataka with eight points from four outings.

Resuming on 127 for three, Bengal did not see merit in forcing a win. Sudip Kumar (101 n.o., 193b, 12x4, 2x6) recorded his fifth First Class century.

Pacer Vidyadhar Patil kept a probing line to prise out Shahbaz Ahmed and Avilin Ghosh, but a confident knock from Wriddhiman Saha (63 n.o., 70b, 7x4, 1x6) left no room for a Karnataka comeback.

Cashing in: Sudip made the most of the opportunity to score a hundred. K. MURALI KUMAR

Bengal declared on 283 for five soon after Sudip reached his hundred. With less than two sessions of play remaining, a draw was a foregone conclusion.

Karnataka captain Mayank Agarwal conceded that the team had been affected by a "few soft dismissals", and that the batters were keen to take corrective action.

Karnataka has also been forced to contend with the absence of regulars like K.L. Rahul, V. Vyshak and Devdutt Padikkal, who are away on international duty.

"We want our players to play a higher grade of cricket. We want to keep fighting and find ways to win games for Karnataka. If we get a win in the next game, then suddenly things look different," Mayank said.

Karnataka next takes on Uttar Pradesh at Lucknow on November 13. Bengal faces Madhya Pradesh at Indore.

The scores:
Bengal — 1st innings: 301.
Karnataka — 1st innings: 221.
Bengal — 2nd innings: Shuvam Dey c Sateri b Abhilash 30, Sudip Chatterjee c Sateri b Koushik 48, Sudip Kumar (not out) 101, Anustup Majumdar b Vidyadhar 5, Shahbaz Ahmed c Smaran b Vidyadhar 18, Avilin Ghosh c Shreyas b Vidyadhar 5, Wriddhiman Saha (not out) 63; Extras (b-2, lb-7, nb-4): 13; Total (for five wkts. decl. in 81.4 overs): 283.
Fall of wickets: 1-69, 2-97, 3-106, 4-142, 5-160.
Karnataka bowling: Koushik 23-9-43-1, Abhilash 22-1-87-1, Vidyadhar 19.4-5-53-3, Shreyas 6-1-47-0, Hardik 11-0-44-0.
Karnataka — 2nd innings: Mayank Agarwal c Majumdar b Sindhu 5, Kishan Bedare (concussion substitute) c (sub) Gandhi b Sindhu 5, R. Smaran (not out) 35, Shreyas Gopal lbw b Sindhu 32, Manish Pandey (not out) 30; Extras (lb-1, nb-2): 3; Total (for three wkts. in 28 overs): 110.
Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-12, 3-66.
Bengal bowling: Porel 2.4-1-9-0, Sindhu 8-1-27-3, Shahbaz 10.2-0-50-0, Gani 6-0-22-1, Majumdar 1-0-2-0.

RANJI SCORES - FOURTH ROUND, DAY 4

Elite: **Group A: At Agartala:** Baroda 235 & 241/4 in 99 overs (Shivalik Sharma 52, Shaswat Rawat 51, Krunal Pandya 57) drew with Tripura 482/7 decl. **Points: Tripura 3(12); Baroda 1(20).**
Mumbai: Mumbai 602/4 decl. bt Odisha 285 & 214 in 72.5 overs (Aashirwad Swain 51, Kartik Biswal 45 n.o., Himanshu Singh 4/77, Shams Mulani 5/71). **Mumbai 7(16); Odisha 0(4).**
Pune: Services 293 & 230 bt Maharashtra 185 & 303 in 100.5 overs (Sachin Dhas 44, Ankeet Bawane 94 n.o., Satyajeet Bachhav 42, Saurabh Nawale 56, Pulkit Narang 6/87, Amit Shukla 4/94). **Maharashtra 0(8); Services 6(13).**
Group B: Ahmedabad: Pondicherry 361 & 177/2 in 45 overs (Ajay Rohera 68 n.o., Aman Khan 77) drew with Gujarat 375 in 123 overs (Aarya Desai 200, Sagar P Udeshi 5/79). **Gujarat 3(18); Pondicherry 1(2).**
Nagpur: Himachal Pradesh 307 & 180 in 61.1 overs (Mukul Negi 40, Harsh Dubey 6/36) lost to Vidarbha 575. **Vidarbha 7(25); HP 0(14).**
Jaipur: Hyderabad 410 & 279/3 decl. in 65.2 overs (Tanmay Agarwal 79, Abhirath Reddy 46, K. Himateja 101 n.o., Rahul Singh Gahlaut 53 n.o.) drew with Rajasthan 425. **Rajasthan 3(13); Hyderabad 1(8).**
Vizianagaram: Uttarakhand 338 & 128/9 decl. in 49 overs drew with Andhra 146 & 286/6 in 93 overs (Karan Shinde 65, Hanuma Vihari 66, K.S. Bharat 92, Deepak Dhapola 5/75). **Andhra 1(1); Uttarakhand 3(9).**
Group C: Bengaluru: Bengal 301 & 283/5 decl. in 81.4 overs (Sudip Chatterjee 48, Sudip Kumar Gharami 101 n.o., Wriddhiman Saha 63 n.o.) drew with Karnataka 221 &110/3 in 28 overs. **Karnataka 1(9); Bengal 3(8).**
Thiruvananthapuram: Uttar Pradesh 162 & 116 in 37.5 overs (Jalaj Saxena 6/41) lost to Kerala 395. **Kerala 7(15); UP 0(5).**
Patna: Madhya Pradesh 616 bt Bihar 347 in 143.2 overs (Babul Kumar 47, Bipin Saurabh 71, Ayush Loharuka 76, Sraman Nigrodh 42, Saransh Jain 5/108) & 161 in 60.5 overs (Vaibhav Suryavanshi 41, Sakibul Gani 76 n.o., Kumar Kartikeya 4/40). **Bihar 0(1); MP 7(9).**
Group D: Guwahati: Tamil Nadu 338 & 217/2 in 60 overs (N. Jagadeesan 118 n.o., Pradosh Ranjan Paul 68 n.o.) drew with Assam 445. **Assam 3(4); TN 1(12).**
Raipur: Chhattisgarh 500/9 decl. & 129/5 decl. in 32 overs (Sanjeet Desai 51 n.o.) drew with Railways 351 in 111.2 overs (Vivek Singh 86, Suraj Ahuja 135, Upendra Yadav 52, Ravi Kiran 5/56) & 35/1 in 7.4 overs. **Chhattisgarh 3(8); Railways 1(14).**
Chandigarh: Delhi 276 & 250 lost to Chandigarh 324 & 204/1 in 40.2 overs (Arslan Khan 68, Shivam Bhambri 100 n.o.). **Chandigarh 6(19); Delhi 0(11).**
Ranchi: Jharkhand 306 & 283 in 84.2 overs (Sharandeep Singh 73, Anukul Roy 90, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja 4/15) drew with Saurashtra 386 & 69/1 in nine overs. **Jharkhand 1(7); Saurashtra 3(4).**
Plate: **Sovima:** Sikkim 192 & 116 in 48.3 overs (Ankur Malik 47, J. Suchith 6/36) lost to Nagaland 347. **Nagaland 7(20); Sikkim 0(12).**

Pulkit Narang (Services, 6/87).
FILE PHOTO: K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Advani clinches a record 28th World billiards crown

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Pankaj Advani clinched a historic 28th World title and his seventh in a row, defeating England's Robert Hall 4-2 at the IBSF World billiards championship in Doha on Saturday.

Advani's winning streak had begun in 2016 and has also survived two years – 2020 and 2021 – of vacuum created by COVID-19.

Hall took an early lead in the opening frame, but the Indian rallied to reach the magic 150 first.

Advani emerged victorious in the cerebral duel, positioning himself just one frame away from making history.

However, Hall refused to bow out quietly, crafting a flawless 151 break in the fourth frame to keep his hopes alive. The fifth saw Hall on fire once more, delivering another stunning 154 break to put pressure on Advani. But the Indian elevated his game in the sixth frame with a crucial century break.

Pankaj Advani
FILE PHOTO: K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

The result:
Final: Pankaj Advani (Ind) bt Robert Hall (Eng) 151(71)-94(87), 151(147)-0, 150-84, 74(74)-151(151), 6-154(154), 152(105)-46.

Manipur beats Bengal; Uttar Pradesh qualifies for quarterfinals

HOCKEY

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

In a potential clash to decide the table-topper, Manipur blunted Bengal's challenge 3-1 in a Pool H contest of the 14th Hockey India senior National men's championship at the SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium here on Saturday.

While Bengal completed its three matches with a sole defeat, an unbeaten Manipur will take on Assam on Monday in its final group contest.

In Pool F, Uttar Pradesh scored its third straight win and qualified for the quarterfinals with a 11-1 victory over Jammu & Kashmir.

For all its dominance throughout the tie, Manipur could find the target only as late as the third quarter when Rabichandra Singh scored off a penalty corner. From there on, it was largely Manipur's show.

On target: Lugan scores Manipur's third goal. M. VEDHAN

Bengal was at the receiving end for the major part. It did have its chances but in the final third and failed.

The results: Pool A: Punjab 8 (Gurjinder Singh 8, 11, Jobanpreet Singh 14, Surdarshan Singh 38, 39, Pardeep Singh 42, 50, Gursahibjit Singh 44) bt Dadra Nagar and Daman & Diu 0.
B: Haryana 5 (Pankaj 29, Joginder Singh 32, 48, Deepak 35, Rajinder Singh 37) bt Telangana 1 (Venkatesh Telugu 58).
F: Uttar Pradesh 11 (Vishnukant Singh 13, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay 14, 39, 50, Atul Deep 16, Chandan Singh 22, Faraz Mohd. 30, 57, Iktidar Ishrat 40, Arun Sahani 52, Jay Prakash Patel 60) bt J&K 1 (Karanjit Singh 8); Delhi 6 (Dheeraj Vats 4, 28, Govind Singh Bisht 19, Nitesh 22, 41, 44) bt Kerala 1 (Rishabh Kushwaha 41).
H: Assam 4 (Abdul Qadir 10, 30, 40, Aniket Tiwari 44) bt Bihar 1 (Ravi Kumar 21); Manipur 3 (Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh 39, Nilakanta Sharma 45, Cyril Lugun 55) bt Bengal 1 (Nitesh Neupane 51).

Hour-mark goals see hosts Chennaiyin FC and Mumbai City FC share the honours

Scrappy affair: No team had it in them to find the winner in ISL's 1000th game. M. VEDHAN

ISL

Aneesh Dey
CHENNAI

The 1000th match in ISL history ended in a stalemate as the clash between Chennaiyin FC and Mumbai City FC ended in a 1-1 draw at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Saturday.

The opener
Chennaiyin captain Ryan Edwards scored the opening goal in the 60th minute, while Nathan Asher Rodrigues grabbed Mumbai's equaliser just three minutes later.

The host created the first scoring opportunity from a counter-attack in the eighth minute. Vincy Barretto, who had the chance to finish the counter, saw his low shot saved by Mumbai custodian Phurba Lachenpa.

In the 37th minute, Wilmar Jordan Gil thought he had scored with a looping header from Shields' cross, only for Phurba to rescue his team with a fingertip save.

The second-half saw both teams adopt a cautious approach, which brought down the tempo of the match, and it took a set-piece to finally break the deadlock.

In the 60th minute, CFC got a free-kick after Vincy was fouled in the final third. Shields' cross at the far-post was met by a towering header from Edwards, whose looping header beat Phurba and ended up at the back of the net after taking a touch off the woodwork.

Chennaiyin's celebration didn't last long as Mumbai netted from a corner. Van-Nieff's cross was met by Rodrigues, and with a looping header of his own, the young fullback beat 'keeper Mohammad Nawaz for the equaliser.

The results: Chennaiyin FC 1 (Edwards 60) drew with Mumbai City FC 1 (Rodrigues 63).
At Kolkata: East Bengal 0 drew with Mohammedan Sporting 0.

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

All-round show by Manvanth

L. Manvanth Kumar's all-round performance put Karnataka on the ascendency at the end of day two of its Col. C.K. Nayudu (under-23) Trophy match against Odisha at Balangir on Saturday.
From an overnight score of 40, Manvanth went on to score a century (121, 169b, 6x4, 8x6) to carry Karnataka from 287 for six to 389. Then, with a four-wicket haul (4/35), he helped the visitor reduce Odisha to 165 for six, with the host 224 runs in the red.
The scores: Karnataka 389 in 110.4 overs (Prakar Chaturvedi 102, Harshil Dharmani 77, Rahvir Wadhwa 35, L. Manvanth Kumar 121, Asutosh Marndi 6/92) vs. Odisha 165/7 in 58 overs (Swayam Shrivastava 36, Saideep Mohapatra 58, Y.R. Monish Reddy 3/40, L. Manvanth Kumar 4/35).

Thumping win for Baroda

Baroda recorded an innings-and-212-run victory over Karnataka in a Cooch Behar (under-19) Trophy match in Vadodara on Saturday.
The visitor, after conceding a 477-run first-innings lead, was 207 for seven at the start of the final day and Baroda wrapped up the last three wickets in 25.1 overs of play. Karnataka will next meet Delhi at the Alur Grounds in Bengaluru from November 13 to 16.
The scores: Karnataka 127 & 265 in 97.1 overs (K.P. Karthikeya 45, Samit Dravid 71, Siddharth Akhil 36, Dheeraj Gowda 50, N. Samarth 31, Keshav M. Warke 5/111) lost to Baroda 604/7 decl.